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No policy  
change on  
settlements,  
US  
reassures

JON IMMANUEL  
AND BAT SHEVA TSUR



THE government yesterday defended both settlement expansion and its demand for free access to Palestinian-held areas of Hebron, while Palestinians maintained conceptual differences are blocking an agreement for IDF redeployment in Hebron.

At the same time, the US reassured Israel that there had been no policy change on its part concerning settlements. The assurance was conveyed to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu by US Ambassador Martin Indyk who met with him to consult on the peace negotiations yesterday.

"It's a mistaken concept to think that we can stop natural growth in [the territories]. There are people there whose children need to build homes and more kindergartens and schools are needed. Also we cannot stop people who want to move there from doing so," said Netanyahu's senior adviser, David Bar-Ilan. "The incentives given to people there are the same as those given to any other outlying area."

He said that in the haredi town of Emanuel, permission had been given to build "within the existing municipal boundaries."

Bar-Ilan noted that the Palestinians, too, were expanding. "They have more than 10 times the number of buildings under construction at the moment than those approved for the settlers," he said.

Indyk's clarification followed remarks on Tuesday by State Department spokesman Nick Burns, responding to questions about articles on settlement expansion that appeared in *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*. Burns indicated that the US continued to regard beefing up settlements as causing difficulties for the peace process.

On the IDF's freedom of access in the territories, Bar-Ilan said that the Oslo Accords are "very broad statements that are open to interpretation... They talk about Israel being able to take any measures deemed necessary to protect its citizens. We wanted to specify what measures, to draw parameters," he said.

Oslo architect Labor MK Yossi Beilin yesterday came to the government's assistance on this point, noting that the Oslo accords did not require Israel to notify the Palestinians if there was "engagement" in the H-1 Palestinian-held areas of Hebron after the redeployment.

Chief Palestinian negotiator on Hebron, Saeb Erekat, however, disputed this. He was emphatic that the Palestinians did not accept Israeli reengagement in H-1 even as part of joint mobile units. Although Erekat did not describe the talks as deallocked, in effect they are. The two sides did not meet yesterday and today Information Minister Yasser Abed-Rabbo is scheduled to present the Palestinian position at a press conference.

Although Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat is famous



Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Dan Meridor emphasize the necessity of budget cuts at a press conference at the Knesset yesterday.

## Budget brinkmanship

ANALYSIS  
SARAH HONIG

THERE are a number of latent coalition-busters threatening Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu. The Hebron issue seems particularly wrenching and menacing. But curiously, from a party political point of view, this most emotive issue is not the most dangerous for him.

Likud insiders have no doubt that the government's greatest potential peril is the budget, despite the fact that it arouses no passions and bores Mr. and Ms. Average Israeli like no other issue.

So why is this particular matter so politically loaded? After all each government has had its budget misadventures and they all tend to look the same in the end. The prime minister and his finance minister are always beset with pressures and demands from their own party MKs and coalition partners. No one is willing to be the sacrificial lamb when budget-cutting time comes around, and everyone vociferously clamors for more. This is how it is until the very last minute, and then all sides carefully pull back from the brink just before the fateful vote.

The most likely scenario is that this budget will be born via the same tortuous labor. And yet

in this case the government is in a far more precarious situation than normal. It is a matter of basic math.

Because of the blow suffered by the large parties in the last elections, Netanyahu heads a coalition made up of eight parties. To make matters worse, his own party numbers only 22 MKs, giving far more weight and extortion power to the small parties, which represent special interest groups. Funds are sought by the haredim, the immigrants, the settlers, lower-income groups, etc.

Foreign Minister David Levy's Gesher faction could well make trouble in the name of the have-nots. Levy has already demonstrated his ability to twist Netanyahu's arm. Levy's brother MK Maxim Levy served notice yesterday that "will go all the way" in his war for funding, "even if it means bringing this government down."

With this sort of a coalition situation on the

one hand and given the fact that his finance minister is not a political bulldozer, Netanyahu has no option but to put his full political weight behind Finance Minister Dan Meridor's desperate efforts to slash the budget. So far nothing has been cut and at this point it is obvious that nothing will be if Netanyahu doesn't personally enter the fray.

Besides the cuts, unpopular measures must be rammed through to get the country out of the red, including, for instance, a fee for visits to health fund doctors. Though a relatively small expense for most families, this one is sure to rile the electorate and is thus not a move easy for politicians to make. Any hike in taxes or levies has been made more difficult by Netanyahu's promise not to increase the already awesome burden borne by the Israeli taxpayer.

As things stand now, it is a tug-of-war between the ministers who want no cuts in their departments and the prime minister who wants to avoid raising taxes. It will be six weeks before we know who won and, in politics, six weeks are a long time. There will be a lot of cliffhangers to come.

## PM doesn't rule out tax cut

EVELYN GORDON

THE Treasury will submit its proposal for an additional budget cut of some NIS 2 billion to the cabinet in about two weeks, Finance Minister Dan Meridor said yesterday.

Meridor met with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday morning to discuss the new cut in the 1997 budget. Afterwards the two held a press conference at the Knesset.

Netanyahu said the exact size of the additional cut would depend on revenue levels during the rest of 1996.

"We are only now learning how unfortunate [the previous government's legacy] really was," he said.

The prime minister implied that the additional cut would be presented to the Knesset this year, saying he planned to pass "one budget, in one process, by the end of the year."

The two men declined to give details of the planned cuts, however.

"I won't give you the exact make-up of the cuts now, because we haven't finalized them yet," Meridor said, adding that the Treasury is still considering various alternatives. "But there is no doubt that we have already submitted the easier proposals."

Asked whether he would consider raising taxes if he failed to get the coalition to support the additional cuts, Netanyahu did not rule the idea out entirely, but said the government would do "everything in its power not to increase the tax burden."

"Israel already suffers from one of the highest tax burdens in the world," he said. "Increasing the tax burden would only reduce business activity... It would cause the very economic crisis we are trying to prevent."

"The government competes with industrialists... for [financial]

resources," Meridor explained. "The more the government takes, the less there is available for growth. So how do taxes help me?"

Netanyahu stressed the importance of passing the cuts, saying there would be an economic crisis if the government did not deal now with its "national overdraft" — just as ordinary people eventually face economic disaster if they let their overdraft build up unchecked.

"We are, as the finance minister says, on the brink of an abyss," he said. "And who will pay the price [if there is an economic crisis]? The residents of North Tel Aviv? Of Herzliya? The ones who will pay the price will be the residents of the development towns... Whoever sabotages this budget cut is hurting the weaker sectors of society."

In contrast to what has been reported, there is great interest in Israel on the part of [foreign] investors," he continued. "The smartest money in the world is knocking at our door... But everyone, without exception, is watching us and asking: 'What will they do with the budget?'"

If we make the wrong choice and fail to make the necessary cuts, he said, investor interest will be drastically curtailed.

Meridor likened the situation to a medical problem: If caught early, it can be solved with minimal pain, but if left too long, only drastic measures will save the patient.

"I see all kinds of MKs who think that someone else bears the responsibility [for solving the economic crisis]," he added. "But the 120 MKs are as responsible as anyone else... And those who refuse to take the budget cuts today will be the ones leading the demonstrators when unemployment increases."

(Continued on Page 4)

## PM to Assad: Let's return to negotiations

BATSHEVA TSUR and HILLEL KUTTLER

ISRAEL sent a message to Damascus yesterday, reassuring Syria that it is interested in returning to the negotiating table.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu dispatched the message to Syrian President Hafez Assad via US Senator Arlen Specter, whom he met in his Knesset office, who was accompanied by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Specter, who was accompanied by US Ambassador Martin Indyk, left immediately afterward for Damascus. He met in Damascus with Assad and Foreign Minister Farouk Shara and returned to Israel yesterday evening. He will meet with Netanyahu again this morning.

Specter has tried before to mediate between Jerusalem and Damascus. Several weeks ago, he conveyed a similar message to Assad.

An Israeli official acknowledged yesterday that political differences between Israel and Syria militate against a meeting now between the envoys of the two sides.

He emphasized, though, that Israel is ready and willing to meet with the Syrians "at any place, at

any time."

The statements came in response to reports that a new rift had developed between the countries after Syrian Ambassador to the US, Walid Mualem, told journalists that he had heard Israeli Ambassador to the US Eliahu Ben-Elissar wanted to meet him, but that such a meeting would not be possible.

Ben-Elissar is in Israel this week for consultations. American officials have stated they do not expect Israeli-Syrian talks to resume until January 1997 at the earliest.

The sides have not met since last March, when Israel broke off the talks following the spate of suicide bombings.

The Israeli official said Ben-Elissar was not smirking because the embassy "never got an answer directly" from the Syrians to the request for a meeting.

Nevertheless, Israel recognizes that a meeting now is not workable, he said.

The issue came about after Ben-Elissar held introductory meetings with the French and Russian ambassadors. When they asked how they could be helpful, Ben-Elissar suggested they help arrange a meeting with Mualem, the official said.

## Report details series of PA violations of Oslo

LIAT COLLINS

THE Palestinian Authority continues to ignore the terror infrastructure in the areas under its control although it is working to thwart specific attacks, according to a 14-page report of Palestinian Authority violations of the Oslo Accords.

The report was presented by IDF Coordinator in the Territories Maj. Gen. Oren Shohar to the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee yesterday.

According to an official briefing, Shohar said in recent months there had been signs of a decline in initiated actions by the Palestinian Authority against opposition groups, particularly an

easing of pressure on the terror infrastructure.

The report, distributed afterwards to parliamentary reporters, says the Palestinian Authority is not bringing the full weight of the law to bear against individuals involved in terrorism. No steps have been taken against the 200 suspects whose names appear on a list Israel has given the Palestinians, and some individuals directly involved in terror acts have been granted open prison conditions or even freed from detention.

The report also says the

Palestinian Authority is not doing enough to prevent infiltration into Israel. Several clauses in the report note the abuse of VIP status by the Palestinian Authority, stating VIPs and security men illegally carry arms in Israel. It also accuses some Palestinian Authority VIPs of smuggling into Israel Palestinians prevented from crossing the Green Line, including wanted criminals, and arms.

Shohar's report says 10,000 Palestinian police, some of them armed, have not received Israeli authorization as required, and that senior PA officials have participat-

ed in incitement and protests against Israel's paving of bypass roads.

In eastern Jerusalem, there have been attempts by the Palestinian Authority to solidify its presence and standing, including the use of illegal security activities.

The report notes that some 30,000 visitors to the autonomous areas have not been asked to leave, even though their permits have expired.

The report opens with clauses relating to the recent riots, saying that the Palestinian leadership heated up the situation and "incited the crisis at the end of" (Continued on Page 4)

## Survey: Majority favors TA over J'lem as capital

EVELYN GORDON

A new survey has found that a slight majority of Israelis would support moving Israel's capital from Jerusalem to Tel Aviv, MK Ophir Pines (Labor) said at the opening meeting of the Knesset's caucus for Jerusalem yesterday.

Pines, who co-chairs the caucus along with Reuven Rivlin (Likud), said he learned of the survey — which is to be published in *Ma'ariv* later this week — when someone from the paper called to ask him for a reaction. He said the reporter refused to give him the exact figures, telling him only that the results were "very close," but with a slight majority favoring moving the capital.

"This is very worrying," Pines said, adding that such a finding shows the need for improving the economic and social conditions in Jerusalem. This will be the group's main focus, as it does not want

to become involved in political issues on which its 18 members might be divided.

Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert told the caucus that he primarily wants its assistance in two areas. First, he said, is the effort to combat "the organized campaign the media is waging" to make Jerusalem's plight look worse than it is, and therefore make the city look more unattractive. For instance, he said, the media likes to talk about the flight of the secular population in light of the city's increasing "baredization," but never mentions that haredim are leaving the city at an identical rate, in terms of their percentage of the population.

Secondly, he said, Jerusalem is the most poorly

treated city in Israel in terms of government benefits, despite the fact that the Basic Law: Jerusalem the Capital obligates the government to give the city preferential treatment.

Since several members of the caucus also sit on the Knesset Finance Committee, Pines suggested that these MKs sit with the city manager to figure out what they can do to help the city with respect to the 1997 budget. The group also decided to submit a bill to make Jerusalem a free-trade zone like Eilat.

"I don't recommend that the caucus get involved in political arguments," he said. "However, I think it must be based on the premise that Jerusalem is not only Israel's capital, but Israel's undivided capital, and the capital of Israel only."

## Treasury bought same property twice

THE Treasury bought the same plot of land twice because it has no inventory of state-owned properties. Treasury officials admitted to the Knesset State Control Committee yesterday.

It emerged that the Treasury had bought a plot from the city of Rehovot once in 1959 and once in 1988.

The Treasury is still negotiating with the municipality in an attempt to get a refund for the sec-

ond purchase, and has said it will sue if necessary.

When committee MKs demanded to know how the Treasury could have bought a building it already owned, Gabi Shohat, who is in charge of government housing for the Treasury and Deputy Accountant-General Yoel Ophir said that they do not have a complete inventory of government-owned property.

According to Shohat, the Treasury inventory contains only property owned by government ministries. It does not include other government properties such as hospitals, prisons, army installations and land owned by the railroad.

Full Story, Page 8

## An (Israeli) tree grows in Brooklyn

MARILYN HENRY  
NEW YORK

FOR decades, Americans have been encouraged to plant trees in Israel. Kibbutz Kfar Haruv is aiming for the reverse.

The Golan Kibbutz is trying to break in to the American market with Jerusalem pines, selling trees that are one to three years old as a "gift from the Holy Land."

"This is one of a line of products geared for the year 2000," said Joel Sheinfeld, the head of public relations for Kfar Haruv.

The Jerusalem pines (*pinus halepensis*) are grown in California from seeds the kibbutz collects from the forests around Jerusalem. Some 5,000 trees are ready for sale this year, Sheinfeld

said, adding that the Jewish National Fund has approved the project.

It took several years for the kibbutz to get permission for the project from the US Department of Agriculture, which usually bars or severely limits the entry of agricultural products.

"There is a two-year quarantine on live trees," said Sheinfeld, who was in the US on a marketing trip. However, the seeds can enter the US immediately with a US government-approved health certificate.

The first trees were shipped to

American customers on October 18.

"Some guy in New Jersey ordered 40 trees for his daughter's bat mitzva," Sheinfeld said.

The trees, which retail for \$10 each, have a shelf-life of 2 to 4 weeks when packaged in a plastic tube that the kibbutz calls a "unique mini-greenhouse."

"If Americans go for this," Sheinfeld said, "Kfar Haruv can build another kibbutz."



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Masked Hamas activists, holding Islamic flags and posters of their martyrs, aim their imitation sub-machine guns in the air yesterday. Thousands of students at Nablus's An-Najah University gathered for a rally to honor Palestinians killed on the Temple Mount in clashes with IDF security forces last September.

# Hebron resident: Police beat my wife after forcing her to strip

JON IMMANUEL

MORE than 20 policemen raiding a house in Hebron to search for arms on Monday morning ordered a woman to strip naked in her bedroom in front of a policewoman who then beat her, her husband said yesterday. A policeman who entered the room while she was naked ordered the beating to continue, the husband added. Police spokesman, Boaz Goldberg, denied the accusation of humiliating the woman, who was three months pregnant, and her husband. Police had raided the apartment near the Abu Snehah quarter because they had received reports of weapons being stored there, he said. Goldberg did not deny that the policewoman may have ordered the wife to strip, but described the beating and male intrusion into her bedroom as "one big lie."

Bassem Eid, director of the Palestinian human rights monitoring group, said he considered the charges "worse than the filmed humiliation by border police of illegal Palestinian workers. In Hebron, which is so conservative and religious, this could have ended in murder." The Abu Snehah neighborhood overlooks the Jewish quarter and security forces, who have been arresting suspected Islamic radicals and searching for illegal weapons, are particularly concerned by the security problem posed from there. Goldberg said they found two non-lethal stun grenades, gun clips, and several bullets, possibly from an Uzi automatic, in the house. However, Issa Abu Mayyaleh, 37, who lived there with his wife Ataf, 30, and seven children (five of whom were at school at the time of the raid), is a policeman in Force 17, one of the Palestinian security services. According to the regulations, he is entitled to carry

a weapon on duty, but he is not allowed to keep guns or ammunition at home in Hebron. "The grenades are not regulation weaponry," Goldberg said. "The grenades were found by my son-in-law who brought them to me because I am a policeman," Abu Mayyaleh said. He said he was also surprised to hear the police take responsibility as the men who entered "wore army uniforms and brown berets." His brother, also a Force 17 member, was arrested, but Abu Mayyaleh was allowed to accompany his wife to hospital. Goldberg said the police allowed her to go, accompanied by her husband, because she complained of pain, but he denied this was caused by beating. Asked why Abu Mayyaleh was not arrested, Goldberg said, "We ordered him to report to the police, but he has not come yet."

## Border Police chief admits increase in violent incidents involving Arabs

LIAT COLLINS

BORDER Police Commander Yisrael Sadan admitted yesterday that there has been an increase in the number of incidents of violence against Arabs by border policemen. Sadan addressed the Knesset Interior Committee in a special session which discussed the incident in which two border policemen were filmed beating and humiliating six Arabs near Jerusalem. He said this case was not the only one, or even the most serious, but just the only case caught on film. Sadan promised the policemen would be brought to justice. He said 237 complaints had been filed against border policemen this year. Without trying to justify the incident, Sadan described the difficult work of the border policemen who have to deal with thousands of Palestinians who try to enter Israel illegally.

"There is a certain increase in the scope of violence, about 20% compared to the same period last year," Sadan said. "The increase mainly stems from the friction at crossings between Judea and Samaria and Israel or in the areas around the crossings. This mainly falls on those same units dealing with the sealing of Jerusalem, along the seam areas and particularly the central area which is the point at which the bulk of attempted entries by Palestinians take place." He noted that in many cases the border policemen feel frustrated and helpless. He denounced the violence, saying that such frustration could not justify it. Sadan said the Border Police is carrying out educational programs.

He called for an increase in the number of career policemen serving in these units, instead of border policemen who are serving as part of their mandatory military service. He said older, more mature border policemen who depend on their salaries as a regular income would improve the quality of the units, and dramatically bring down the violence. Committee chairman Sallah Tarif (Labor) asked whether the change in government could be responsible for creating an atmosphere in which the policemen did not restrain themselves. Sadan rejected the possibility out of hand, and said there had been no dramatic increase in brutality since the elections. He stressed that the Border Police is not working for a particular government, but for the state.

He said the increase had been felt particularly following the wave of bombings in February-March. Eran Shindar, the head of the Justice Ministry's police investigations unit, also said that there had been an increase in complaints of police brutality, particularly at check points around Jerusalem. He also noted there are a number of serious complaints of harassment and humiliation not involving physical violence. Shindar added that there is a problem of disorganized reports, and some files are closed for lack of a proper complaint. He said often the complainant does not want to cooperate with a police investigation. He said about a quarter of the cases cannot be fully investigated, and an additional 30 percent of files are closed for some reason.

## Suspects indicted in drugs-for-sex scandal

NINE men from a city in the North were indicted yesterday in Nazareth District Court for supplying drugs to 15- and 16-year-old girls and having sex with them, in some cases against the girls' will. The court decided to hold the trial of the nine, aged 18-27, behind closed doors. Judge Haim Asa has also named the publication of the suspects' names. As the accused were brought into the court to have their remands extended, dozens of family members went wild in the courtroom, breaking a few windows. Police reinforcements were brought in to restore order and two people were arrested. Prosecutor Mirit Stern said that in the course of about a year the accused used marijuana, hashish and Ecstasy pills with the girls, and sometimes had sex with them during or after the drug use. She said that the sex was occasionally consensual but sometimes not, and even when the girls consented, it was often while they were drugged, or when it was made clear to them

that if they did not agree, their drug supply would be cut off. The indictment against one of the suspects states that after having sex with one of the girls against her will for the first time, he had sex with her daily for an entire month in exchange for drugs. The first encounter between the two occurred after he took the girl home from school to his house and after using drugs and having sex with her against her will, returned her to school while she was still high. He, along with another suspect, is accused of rape and drug use. The other suspects are charged with using dangerous drugs, drug possession, drug dealing, and forcing a minor into drug use. Two of the nine suspects are accused of statutory rape. The drug and sex parties the accused took part in were held in their homes and in public places, including a forest near where they live. In one instance, the girls smoked dope with some of the accused in a school in their neighborhood. (Itim)

## New suspects arrested in murder of Jerusalem beggar

BILL HUTMAN

TWO Jerusalem youths serving time for the brutal murder of a city beggar may be cleared, following the arrest of three suspects in the case, which raises serious questions about police methods of obtaining and relying on confessions. Yesterday the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court lifted a publication ban on the recent arrests of Alexander Tonkouogov, 19, of Jerusalem, Rafael Davidov, 20, of Ashkelon, and Bolshakhanov Gania, 20, of Beit Shemesh, and other details of the renewed investigation. Elazar Bengaiev, 18, and a 17-year-old were convicted for the 1994 murder of Shalom Cohen in his Jerusalem apartment, after confessing to the crime. According to

the confessions, they said they had robbed and murdered Cohen, who was believed to have large sums of money in his house. Cohen, a well-known beggar, was murdered with a sharp object. Bengaiev was given a life sentence for the murder, while the minor received 15 years. The parents of the minor provided the information that led to the recent arrests. The new suspects, who were remanded yesterday for between six and 10 days, were friends of the youths convicted. The police spokesman, in a statement, said two of the suspects confessed to and reenacted the murder, and incriminated the third suspect.

"The investigation is continuing," and it remains unclear if the arrests will lead to the release of either of the teenagers convicted, the spokesman said. Both the minor and Bengaiev told the court during their trial that they were coerced into signing the confessions. "If the new evidence uncovered turns out to be true, it will clearly show that we were right from the beginning when we argued they were coerced into signing confessions, being kept awake for hours, and threatened," said attorney Yair Golan, who represents Bengaiev. Golan, and Michael Horowitz, who represents the minor, this week appealed the convictions to

the Supreme Court, with hearings set for next month. Golan said he hoped to hear from the District Attorney's Office beforehand that the charges were being dismissed. Attorney Eli Abarbanel, of the District Attorney's Office, said he had informed the judges in 1994 that Bengaiev's confession was shaky, because it didn't fit with evidence found in the Derech Beit Lehem apartment. The minor, however, confessed to the murder in a taped phone conversation he made to his girlfriend, and only afterwards in a statement to investigators. He and Bengaiev lived across the hall from Cohen, and in their confessions said they had originally just planned to rob him.

## High Court throws out Kleiner's Hebron petition

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice threw out a petition by MK Michael Kleiner (Geshet) yesterday against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's plan to initial the Hebron agreement before bringing it to the cabinet, and sharply criticized Kleiner for going to court without first trying to use his influence as an MK in the Knesset. In response, Kleiner submitted a bill to the Knesset yesterday which would require the government to update the Knesset on the progress of international negotiations once a month, hold a Knesset discussion on the finished agreement before initialing it, and bring it to the Knesset for ratification after initialing it. Kleiner had argued that while the cabinet authorized Netanyahu, Foreign Minister David Levy and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai to negotiate the agreement, initialing it would exceed their mandate, and would unfairly limit the cabinet's ability to make

changes in the agreement later. However, Justices Eliahu Mazza, Ya'acov Kedmi and Ya'acov Terkel jumped on him for not having made any effort to solve the problem before going to court. "You sent one letter to the prime minister, on November 16 - which was Shabbat - and filed the petition on November 17. Is this the way to act?" demanded Mazza. "Did [the ministers] take any action in the cabinet? Did the petitioner take any action in the Knesset? This is a very strange system: If a minister has a complaint against the government, he sends an MK to petition the High Court." The Knesset, he added, is the proper forum for criticism of the government; that is what it exists for. Kleiner's attorney, Ilan Bombach, said Kleiner learned only a few days ago of the plan to initial the agreement before bringing it to the cabinet, and was afraid to wait because the negotiations could end any day. However, the justices said the petition also appeared to be baseless on its merits, since initialing does not prevent the cabinet from rejecting the agreement if it pleases. "What international agreement is handed any other way?" Mazza asked. "It seems to me that you have already wasted five times as much of our time as this petition deserves," Mazza finally said in exasperation. "Do you still insist on our giving a ruling?" In light of this clear hint, Kleiner withdrew the petition. "It is a pity that the High Court, which has seen fit to intervene in so many things, did not see fit to intervene in such a fundamental matter - as enabling the cabinet to discuss the agreement [seriously]," Kleiner said afterwards. "To dis-

miss it when it is already initiated, when any change will mean a

blow-up with America, with the Palestinians, with the Arabs... This is the way to hold a serious discussion?"

## Budget cuts

THIS table is based on the current NIS 4.9 billion budget cut being debated in the Knesset. The Treasury and Prime Minister's Office do not yet know where any additional cuts will fall. Treasury budget head Ran Kroll said last month an extra cut would be needed proportionately between all the ministries. However, a senior Treasury official said yesterday it would be impossible for technical reasons to implement the cuts equally and it is inevitable that there will be slight variations.

- Welfare allowances	850
- Ministry of Defense	825
- Ministry of Education	500
- Ministry of Finance	400
- Ministry of Housing	292
- Ministry of Industry and Trade	259
- Rescinding of Veteran Citizens' Law	235
- Ministry of Internal Security	160
- Ministry of Interior, local government	145
- Higher education	80
- The Public Works Department	40
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs	36
- Ministry of Religious Affairs	25
- Ministry of Absorption	25
- Ministry of Agriculture	25
- Ministry of Transportation	25
- Ministry of Communication	18
- Ministry of Tourism	15
- Ministry of Science	11
- Prime Minister's Office	10
- Ministry of Justice	7
- Ministry of Energy	7
- Israel Lands Administration	5
- Ministry of Environment	5

- Compiled by David Harris

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem mourns the passing of **YVONNE MAIERSDORF** devoted supporter of the University for many years, and expresses its condolences to the family.

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of our beloved husband, father, grandfather and brother **SAM FRIDE** The funeral will take place on Friday, November 22, 1996 (11 Kislev) at 10:30 a.m. at the Herzliya Cemetery. Mourned by: His wife, Channa Fride-Durat His children, Ies, Esther and Eilif, Sofie, Nattie His sisters, Chelily van Gelder, Fietje Lipsnik and Nathan, Tula, Benno, Basia, Danny, Rikky, Karen, Avillor, Ies-Lidy and children, Hans-Lea and children Shiva at 30 Heleni Hamalka, Herzliya Pituah (near Accadia Hotel).

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# Disabled veteran sets himself alight opposite Defense Ministry

YOSEF Benvenisti, a disabled IDF veteran who is around 60 years old, set himself alight opposite the Defense Ministry in Tel Aviv yesterday, charging that he had not received what the ministry owed him.

Benvenisti, a Haifa resident, was recovering from the suicide attempt at Tel Aviv's Ichilov Hospital last night, with serious burns covering his body.

The Defense Ministry, which pays him a NIS 4,500 monthly disability allowance, said that this was not his first suicide attempt.

Benvenisti, who has a 32 percent disability, and his daughter Orit went to the Defense Ministry yesterday to request assistance to

**RAINE MARCUS**  
and item

purchase a car, using his disability rights. Orit had entered one of the offices, while her father stayed outside.

Without warning, Benvenisti took out a bottle containing flammable material and set himself on fire.

Witnesses, who called Magen David Adom and police, said Benvenisti ran down the street while on fire and passers-by extinguished the flames, before an ambulance arrived and transported him to Ichilov.

Orit complained bitterly that her

father had given his life to the army, which had not awarded him his full disability rights.

"He is unable to walk, and after 34 years in the IDF, the Defense Ministry is ignoring him," she said after the incident.

The Defense Ministry said that Benvenisti had first filed a claim in 1957 for a head and a foot injury, which were recognized as a 10% permanent disability.

Over the years, he filed a number of other complaints, some of which were rejected as having no connection to his injury.

Others were accepted, and by 1993 he had a 32% disability, 20% of which was for mental disability.

# MKs mark International Children's Rights Day

A day after the Knesset dedicated committee meetings and plenum discussions to violence against women, the House marked International Children's Rights Day with several activities.

Members of the Knesset Caucus for Children's Rights yesterday met with their counterparts from the German Bundestag to hear about some of its activities. MK Anat Maor (Meretz) and Dr. Philip Veerman, of the Israeli office of Defense for Children International, initiated the meeting.

The German parliamentarians said their activities focus on three fields: educating toward nonviolence; dealing with the media, including the advantages and dangers of the Internet; and involving children in political decision-making.

**LIAT COLLINS**

Maor noted that 12 bills on children's rights are being submitted in the Knesset. She said the committee here is concentrating on the problems of poverty and children at risk; sexual exploitation; the children in certain sectors, including Arabs, new immigrants and the disabled; protecting children's rights in fields such as forced hospitalization; and employment conditions.

Maor called on the German parliamentarians to work to strengthen democracy, prevent antisemitism and racism.

Veerman said the group is acting to create an international parliamentary lobby for children's rights.

International Children's Rights

Day marks the anniversary of a UN covenant created in 1989 to further children's rights in economic, social, cultural, health and educational fields. Israel signed the covenant in 1991 but, Maor said, "the existence of 329,000 poor children in Israel is a denial of its obligations towards children expressed in the covenant."

The Knesset Education Committee, chaired by Emanuel Zissman (Third Way), discussed prostitution among minors. Calling the phenomenon "shocking," Zissman called for greater preventive and punitive measures, including more attention in the educational system to the problem of dropouts; more centers for needy children; and greater police action against people having sex with minors or spreading child pornography.



A dog sniffs luggage at Ben-Gurion Airport, where a new drug detection unit, including six dogs, was officially launched yesterday. The dogs have already discovered two drug smugglers this past week. (Yisrael Melovoy)

# New canine drug detection unit begins work at B-G Airport

CUSTOMS and VAT authorities officially launched their new drug detection unit at Ben-Gurion Airport yesterday. Six dogs and their handlers, specially trained in the USA, will work full time to help crack down on smugglers.

Up until now police ran a small unit of trained dogs, but now, as in other countries such as the UK, the customs authorities will manage their own division, which will work in cooperation with the police.

So far six dogs, three of them golden retrievers, are being used both in the arrivals lounge and in the cargo department. Those used for sniffing out narcotics in the

**RAINE MARCUS**

arrivals lounge are categorized as "passive" canines. They are taken around the lounge, between suitcases and passengers, and if they detect varieties of drugs hidden on persons or luggage, simply sit near their target. They are praised and given a prize by their handlers.

The "active" dogs are situated in the cargo department and run wild barking if they detect drugs hidden in containers.

The dogs have already discovered two drug smugglers this past week.

The unit was launched by new Customs and VAT chief Moti Ayalon and authorities are now testing electronic equipment, including X-ray machines for detecting both drugs and explosives.

Various companies from the US and Europe are competing to sell their hi-tech equipment to authorities, and such sophisticated machines, which will cost millions of dollars, are presently being experimented with. Customs authorities are also working on the development of detection devices for use in the cargo department, to discover the smuggling of drugs and even explosives in containers from abroad.

# Court demands reason for state's request to bring woman, children back from US

THE High Court of Justice gave the state 45 days this week to justify its attempts to get the US authorities to send a woman and her three children back to Israel.

The woman, Elsa Nimberger, met and married her Israeli husband, Zvi, in New York, where they were both working in a hospital. The family came to Israel in February 1995 - according to Elsa, for a visit, according to Zvi, to live.

A few days later, the couple quarreled, and Elsa tried to take her children back to the US. Zvi got an order from a rabbinical court preventing her from leaving the country, but this was canceled nine months later after Elsa petitioned the High Court.

Zvi then filed a custody suit against Elsa in the Jerusalem District Court, which ended in her getting custody while he got visiting rights. As part of this settle-

**EVELYN GORDON**

ment, the district court canceled another order preventing Elsa from leaving the country, and she returned to New York with the children in January 1996.

In February, Zvi asked Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair to ask the American authorities to return the children. Ben-Yair did so in July, saying Elsa's return to the US had deprived Zvi of his visiting rights, and therefore violated the Hague Convention on international kidnappings of children. This convention states that both parents must consent before relocating the children.

At the time of the settlement in the Jerusalem District Court, Ben-Yair argued, the couple's place of residence was Israel. Therefore, Elsa's unilateral move to the US constituted kidnapping.

Elsa then petitioned the High

Court to get Ben-Yair to withdraw his request to the American authorities.

Elsa said the family originally came to Israel only for two weeks, to visit Zvi's father. Her attorney, Roo Weinstock, noted that she did not quit her job, sell her apartment or make any of the other preparations one would normally make if one were planning a move. The family even bought round-trip tickets.

The fact that Elsa was forced to stay here for almost a year against her will by court orders obtained by Zvi does not mean she ever consented to making Israel her place of residence, he said, and therefore her return to New York does not make her a kidnapper. She was merely following the couple's original plans, he argued; it was Zvi's choice to move to

Israel and waive his visiting rights.

Zvi's claim is that the couple had intended to move to Israel, but Elsa got cold feet after they arrived. Ben-Yair said the district court settlement, which gave Zvi the right to visit the children twice a week, supports the theory that the couple was living in Israel at the time.

At a hearing earlier this week, however, Justices Aharon Barak, Mishael Cheshin and Dalia Dorner appeared to find Elsa's version of events more believable. If the couple had really intended to move here, they said, how was it possible to explain the round-trip tickets, which were only for a two-week stay?

They therefore issued the show-cause order, which shifts the burden of proof to the state. The final hearing will be in about two months.

# Benizri seeks funds to reduce geriatric institution waiting lists

**JUDY SIEGEL**

DEPUTY Health Minister Shlomo Benizri has asked Finance Minister Dan Meridor to allocate an additional NIS 52.5 million to eliminate the waiting list for entrance to geriatric institutions.

At present, 2,500 people are on the waiting list, and 300 more are added each year. The extra funds would eliminate the list over the next three years.

In a meeting Tuesday, Benizri said the Health Ministry currently pays for 7,000 geriatric beds in public and private institutions, but because of the lack of budget, another 2,500 are waiting at home, often in very difficult conditions or getting inadequate care.

Meridor said he was aware of the importance of finding an honorable and quick solution to the problem, and he promised to examine it carefully with an aim to accede to his request.

Benizri said he intends to examine the costs of hospitalization and try to reduce expenses, while at the same time preserving the level of services.

That way, he said, more patients can be treated for the same amount of money.

# Woman almost dies from bee sting treatment

**JUDY SIEGEL**

A 52-YEAR-OLD kibbutznik who submitted to bee stings in an effort to relieve her shoulder pains nearly died recently after going into anaphylactic shock from the stings. Doctors at Kupat Holim Clalit's Lin Clinic in Haifa gave her emergency treatment and saved her life.

The woman, a member of a kibbutz in the North, went to a complementary medicine practitioner who said bee stings would relieve her pain. After the 12th sting, an allergy appeared that caused a rash and shortness of breath.

Dr. David Nusam, a senior Lin allergy expert, said that while complementary medicine could be helpful, patients should be aware of the fact that they can also be dangerous and even life-threatening "if they are carried out in an irresponsible manner."

The woman will have to undergo immunotherapy at the Lin clinic to ensure that she doesn't suffer a serious reaction to bee stings in the future. If she hadn't been exposed to so much bee allergen at once, the "accident" would not have happened and she would not have to be careful in the future, he said.

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# Thousands more said heading to Rwanda

GOMA, Zaire (Reuters) - Thousands more refugees, tracked by US satellites, trekked through eastern Zaire towards Rwanda yesterday, further weakening the case for a UN intervention force.

The UN's World Food Program reported that perhaps as many as 100,000 Hutu refugees were on the road, the possible vanguard of a second mass exodus to the homeland they fled in panic after the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

"There are strong indications that a large movement of people from the Bukavu area are heading north towards Goma. We believe there could be more than 100,000," WFP spokeswoman Michele Quintaglio said in Nairobi.

If confirmed, the WFP report would clear the mystery surrounding the whereabouts of many of the estimated 700,000 Hutus still in Zaire since 500,000 others walked back into Rwanda from Goma between November 15 and 19.

A second mass movement would almost certainly lead the world to call off plans to send a Canadian-led humanitarian mission to the region.

Hundreds of thousands of Hutu refugees fled back into Rwanda last weekend to escape fighting

between Zairean rebels, supported by Rwanda, and soldiers from Rwanda's Hutu-dominated army and militias, who organized the 1994 Rwandan genocide of minority Tutsis.

The UN refugee agency in Goma said yesterday a substantial number of Rwandan refugees from the Bukavu area were moving towards Goma.

"There is a substantial number of refugees moving northwards at the moment," said Filippo Grandi, head of the UNHCR in the town.

"We are receiving information from local staff, local authorities and American intelligence satellites," he said, adding the figures on the move varied enormously.

"The thing with the information we are receiving from US satellites is they do not give numbers. All we can say is that it is definite that a substantial number of these people are on the move northwards along the west of the lake," he said.

Witnesses said suspected American intelligence-gathering aircraft also circled Goma this morning. They twice came under fire from rebel-held Mount Goma, but were not hit.

Meanwhile in Germany, Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel announced a meeting in Stuttgart to discuss the military composition of any

international force had been put back to Friday.

Later, however, a US military spokesman said no firm date had yet been fixed.

Canadian Forces, in a statement issued by the US European Command in Stuttgart, did not mention a date for the meeting but said that preliminary planning for the mission was under way.

"The United Nations continues to reevaluate the fluid situation in Central Africa. It would be premature to discuss options with contributing nations before a new mandate is issued," the statement reads.

The statement said that the Canadian general marked to lead the mission, Lt-Gen. Maurice Baril, "will reassess any changes of the mission being discussed by the United Nations and conduct further preliminary planning."

US President Bill Clinton said yesterday that the US had made no final decision on involving US forces in relief efforts. Earlier, Defense Secretary William Perry said the US was instead preparing a military air relief operation.

Vice President Paul Kagame said he was "deeply suspicious" of the need to link humanitarian aid for thousands of returning refugees to the presence of an international force in Rwanda.



Russian President Boris Yeltsin sits on a bench outside the Central Clinical Hospital yesterday with his wife Naina and granddaughter Masha.

# Yeltsin makes TV appearance

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Russian President Boris Yeltsin, rosy-cheeked and smiling in his first television appearance since his heart operation, said yesterday he had no pain and was in fighting mood.

Yeltsin, wrapped up in a fur hat, scarf and coat, moved stiffly and slowly but spoke fluently as he strolled with his family through the grounds of Moscow's Central Clinical Hospital 15 days after his quintuple bypass operation.

"My heart already does not hurt. I can't feel my heart, unlike before the operation," the 65-year-old president said as he walked on his granddaughter Masha's arm. His wife Naina and one of his two daughters, Tatyana, strolled with them.

"I am in fighting mood," Yeltsin told a reporter from RIA news agency, speaking more clearly than for several weeks. "Generally

speaking, of course, I feel well compared with the first days after the operation."

Yeltsin and his granddaughter chuckled as he explained how he had his surgery stitches removed earlier yesterday and said he would probably move to the familiar surroundings of the Barvikha sanatorium outside Moscow today or Friday.

"Now I can move about freely. Now I need to exercise. I need to exert myself more physically and emotionally to start regaining my full strength," he said.

With a slight croak in his voice, he thanked Russians for their moral support since he fell ill just before his reelection on July 3.

Doctors said after the operation, intended to improve the blood supply to his heart, that Yeltsin could be back in the Kremlin around New Year.

Yeltsin had his first full official meeting since the operation on Tuesday, when he met Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin for more than 90 minutes, and doctors say his recovery is going according to plan.

The president munched on politics only once in his interview, reminding Russian officials they will have to account for their actions while he has been out of the Kremlin.

"Yesterday I started asking Chernomyrdin to report and everybody will have to report on what has been done, what they propose to do and what they are thinking of doing, how to put things right where it is difficult, and so on," he said.

Some officials became involved in a battle for influence in the belief that Yeltsin might not be fit enough for his operation or might not make a full recovery.

# Bombs found at Manila Airport one week before APEC Summit

MANILA (AP) - Philippine officials brushed off concern over security preparations for next week's summit of Pacific Rim leaders despite the discovery of bombs yesterday at the summit site and Manila's airport.

A travel bag left outside the airport arrival area contained several grenades and a timing device, said airport security guard Mutalib Abduljalid, who found it. Another grenade was found later inside the airport at a hotel transportation desk, he said.

Another bomb was found earlier in the day by a janitor in a crowded area near the main gate of the Subic Bay Freeport, a former-US naval base west of Manila where President Clinton and 17 other leaders meet next Monday for the annual Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit.

Officials, however, gave conflicting explanations of the Subic incident, with some saying that the bomb found there was part of a drill to test security preparations.

But the incidents raised new concerns about precautions for the November 20-25 APEC meetings in Manila and summit at Subic Bay in Olongapo City west of the capital.

Philippine authorities have assembled a 26,000-member security force to protect Clinton, Japanese Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto, Chinese President Jiang Zemin and the other leaders.

A single incident could be disastrous for the Philippine government's hopes of using APEC to convey to the world that the economy is now an ideal investment destination after decades of economic stagnation. APEC officials attempted to

minimize the incidents and said they showed security preparations were working since the bombs were found promptly.

"Let me tell our people honestly that there is no confirmed information about any terrorist of any kind, foreign or local," said former General Lisandro Abadía, head of the APEC organizing committee.

Subic's leader said the bomb was placed there without his knowledge by the Presidential Security Group, the Philippine version of the US Secret Service.

But air force Capt. Ruben Carandang, who is assigned to the Presidential Security Group at Subic, said he knew of no bomb drill.

"We don't conduct bomb drills because it will scare people," he said.

# Tension rises after Serbian opposition wins poll

BELGRADE (Reuters) - Serbia's opposition urged its supporters yesterday to defend their sweeping victory in local elections and accused authorities of trying to reverse the results through massive fraud.

Opposition leaders said tensions were mounting in several major towns where local authorities had failed to verify voting results by Tuesday evening as required by law.

"In practically all towns in Serbia where we have won results are being canceled, exactly to the extent it is necessary to cancel our victory and to give it to those who have lost the elections," Zoran Djindjic, head of the opposition Democratic Party, told reporters.

Authorities on Tuesday confirmed the opposition's victory in the capital Belgrade, a stunning blow to ruling Socialists led by Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

But no results had been announced in several towns where the opposition said it

scored clear majorities against the Socialists.

Djindjic and other leaders of the Zajedno (Together) coalition their councilors across the country to uphold their legal rights and form new local governments.

"You should enter immediately into municipal and city assemblies, establish new authorities and defend them together with us," said a statement issued by the opposition.

Electoral commissions by law were required to confirm official results by Tuesday evening, 48 hours after polling stations closed.

"Such an illegal situation and attempt to reverse the will of the people is leading to a destabilization of the state and the consequences could be very dramatic," Vesna Pesic, head of the opposition Civic Alliance, said.

The coalition later warned that Socialist authorities may be preparing to declare a state of emergency.

# Pressure mounts as Belarus leader fails to meet parliament foes, mediators

MINSK (AP) - Belarus's hard-line President Alexander Lukashenko failed to meet with his legislative foes and top Russian mediators yesterday, further eroding hopes of a political compromise in the tense former Soviet republic.

Lukashenko and the lawmakers, who are seeking to impeach the president, are locked in a bitter feud over a nationwide referendum set for Sunday. The referendum might extend the president's term to the year 2001 and expand his already sweeping powers.

The Belarusian Constitutional Court said it will consider the issue of Lukashenko's impeachment on Friday.

Meanwhile, amid a fresh round of reprimand in Minsk, Lukashenko and the opposition parliament speaker, Semyon Shatsky, called off a planned meeting.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin then attempted to mediate a compromise and ease tensions with separate phone calls to the president and parliament speaker.

The Russian president, still recovering at the Kremlin hospital following heart bypass surgery on November 5, expressed "deep concern about the developments in Belarus," said Vasily Novikov, Shatsky's first deputy.

But in spite of Yeltsin's efforts, Lukashenko refused to meet with Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and the leaders of Russia's parliament yesterday afternoon in Smolensk, on the Russian side of their common border.

"The president has a full schedule," said his deputy ideology chief, Vladimir Zamiatin.

"We heard that Chernomyrdin is not coming," so Lukashenko decided not to go," Shatsky, on the other hand, headed for Smolensk to meet with his Russian counterparts, the speakers of the both chambers of parliament.

In Moscow, Russia's State Duma, the lower house of parliament, approved a statement calling for Lukashenko and Shatsky "to show goodwill and find a political solution."

In Minsk, several hundred presidential supporters, some of them waving Soviet-era Communist flags, gathered in the square outside parliament.

Shatsky says he wants the president to recall his referendum, work with parliament on constitutional amendments and annual "unconstitutional" decrees. In exchange, parliament would drop its plans to impeach the president.

Shatsky called off a planned morning meeting with Lukashenko after the president broke up a parliamentary session by calling his supporters in the legislature into his office.

Parliament moved to impeach Lukashenko on Monday after Prime Minister Mikhail Chir resigned to protest the referendum.

Fearing the president might disband parliament, scores of deputies since have holed up there and resumed discussions yesterday.

The country's Constitutional Court has to rule on whether the president has violated the constitution and must approve any impeachment motion before parliament votes.

It will hear the case Friday, said court spokesman Oleg Moskaev.

# Republicans renominate Gingrich as House speaker

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Republicans rallied around Newt Gingrich yesterday, nominating him for a second term as speaker of the House of Representatives despite concern about ethics charges swirling around the controversial Georgia conservative.

Gingrich was approved unanimously at a gathering of Republicans elected to the House in the November 5 vote that kept Republican majorities in both houses of Congress.

"This is a bittersweet day for me," Gingrich said in accepting the nomination. His stepfather, Robert Gingrich, died of cancer earlier in the day.

Gingrich seems certain to be elected speaker by the full House membership when the new Congress convenes on January 7. The vote is normally along straight party lines, and Republicans will have a majority of at least 20 seats in the 435-member House once a few undecided contests are resolved.

The only threat to Gingrich's reelection could arise if the House Ethics Committee makes damaging charges against him in a report to be issued before the end of '96.

The committee is probing whether a tax-exempt foundation he formerly headed was used illegally for political purposes, and whether Gingrich had provided accurate information to the committee about a college course he taught.

# British rage at Tunnel fire; French barely flinch

LONDON (Reuters) - Britain's press dismissed the futuristic Channel train link as a "Tunnel of Blunders" yesterday, but France played down a freight train blaze which injured eight people as a catastrophe that never was.

French media showed no pictures of Monday's fire - dwelling instead on the speed of the rescue operation - whereas Britain's papers were dominated by the story.

"It was like the worst horror film I've ever seen," one survivor told the tabloid Daily Mirror. "I was ready to die." The Independent proclaimed "darkness at the end of the Tunnel," capturing the sombre mood following Monday's blaze.

For while France has always backed the project, many Britons - ever leery of links with the continent - feared rabid dogs, underwater bombs and a loss of their island mentality.

Following this, the first major accident since the Channel opened two years ago, The Independent said a project once heralded as a feat of engineering had now "lost its innocence."

"Promised as the safest form of travel between Britain and Europe, it suffered the fire that everyone feared," it said.

The Times was even forced to rejig its usual layout, shifting a token for free travel through the tunnel deeper into the paper to make room for its blanket coverage of

the blaze.

Nor was the rescue operation glitch-free, according to passengers. British truckers aboard the freight train complained of a "terrifying shambles" in which officials argued as passengers were felled by noxious fumes. Some papers said fumes were spotted before the train even entered the tunnel.

Yet France played down the fire, which damaged the 51-km rail tunnel, as a disaster that didn't happen. French television repeatedly ran archive footage of security trials in which passengers are calmly evacuated.

News bulletins highlighted the speedy arrival of the first rescue services and the

efficient evacuation of passengers. Long-planned security measures functioned properly, they said.

Unlike their British counterparts, French national daily newspapers barely mentioned the inferno on their front pages.

Only the popular France-Soir challenged reassuring official and company statements about the handling of the blaze with a front-page editorial headlined "shameless lies."

"The most incredible part of this story is that despite the information which all day undermined their initial lies, cheerful Eurotunnel spokesmen continued to flood the airwaves with tranquilizing but totally phony statements," it said.

## POLICY

(Continued from Page 1) for his negotiating brinkmanship there is a growing readiness among Palestinians to wait it out rather than to allow Israel to spell out what many believe is the humiliating weakness of Oslo - lack of effective Palestinian sovereignty, and lack of reciprocity.

Sensing this, Hamas yesterday organized a protest in An-Najah University in Nablus against the Hebron accords, the first organized demonstration since the fatal September riots, and called for jihad.

"I think the differences are conceptual. This government thinks it must bring back something much better than the last government, to show it is stronger. This cannot

happen," Erekat said. Israel maintains that the Palestinians have violated the Oslo Accords, but it has not presented any cases in the talks, said Erekat. "Not one single comma of the interim accord has been implemented by Mr. Netanyahu. He has not even put his finger tips in the water yet."

Erekat also accused government coordinator Maj-Gen. Oren Shabar of "trying to seek forgiveness" from the government for his unauthorized meetings with the opposition, by accusing, in the Knesset yesterday, the Palestinians of violating the accords.

American diplomatic sources, maintaining a studied optimism despite the deadlock, noted yesterday that considering how none of the negotiators had met or trusted each other before these talks, "they have made great strides in achieving personal rapport."

## OSLO

(Continued from Page 1) September in an intentional and deliberate manner." It also notes that Palestinian policemen and security men participated in the shooting against IDF soldiers.

"We are talking about crossing the 'red line' and a concrete attack on the agreement," the report says.

Representatives of Peace Watch, an independent group monitoring violations of the Oslo Accord, presented their own review to the committee. Opposition committee members vehemently complained that committee chairman Uzi Landau (Likud) should not have invited them because of the group's perceived right-wing ties, and because it is the first time a non-government body has testified before the committee.

Shahor briefly answered journalists' questions on the reports of his meetings with opposition MKs, saying he is continuing to work in the IDF and is scheduled to meet with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai when Mordechai returns from a visit to the United Kingdom.

## TAX

(Continued from Page 1) Netanyahu insisted that the budget cuts would be passed in the end, however.

"There will certainly be some changes, but [the final version] will in the main be what we presented," he said. "We passed it in first reading... and when we get to the second and third readings we'll pass it as well. We'll pass it because we have to cut the huge national overdraft."

However, at least one coalition member is already threatening to vote against the budget.

"I think we should vote against this budget, even at the price of bringing down the government," Gesker faction chairman Maxim Levy said last night.

Netanyahu also used the press conference to try to scotch rumors that he has been undermining Meridor behind the scenes.

"We are cooperating fully [on the passage of the budget]," he said. "I am backing [Meridor] completely."

# Arafat: No Israeli changes in Hebron

ELDAD BECK PARIS

PALESTINIAN Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat said yesterday that he had not expected the Israeli demand to change the content of the agreement that was signed on IDF redeployment in Hebron.

"There is an agreement, they want to change it, and I can't accept that," Arafat said, adding that there is no problem in the negotiations on Hebron, despite Israel's attempt to modify an international agreement that was signed in the White House in the presence of US President Bill Clinton.

Arafat was speaking at the end of a meeting of the donors to the

Palestinian Authority held yesterday in Paris.

According to Arafat and World Bank President James Wolfensohn, the meeting was successful and the participants from 34 countries and from 12 international development agencies have agreed to contribute more than \$845 million to the PA during 1997, the sum Arafat requested during his speech in front of donor representatives yesterday.

However, the two refused to reveal the exact amount.

In his speech, Arafat accused Israel of violating the 1994 agreement and he demanded it be rewritten.

**DRIVE CAREFULLY**

Vertical text on the left margin: I s f u d f I d v e c w T E i t I T A J i H S e n F b w i r y w t e a m a s E t h c r e p l p i P x w o b f i i n c r t e w b h u q v W a g c m i n R O u r s e r o n i f o K P R K i n d i S i n g ( m i n 1 1 . 7 F R I ) 1 7 5 : t o n e N O P D A Y ( m i n 2 5 . 7 W E E ) f o r 1 w o r d F O U 4 4 4 : d i o r M O L f o r w o r d R a t e O E A J e r z b e f o r T h u r T a i n o o n a n d : m i d F o r 0 2 : 2 5 S h o r t B e d P O . 1 T o l . 0 H O L I a n d J e r u s a l e m 5 G o r 6 9 1 8 T H E l a r - b e i t h 0 2 : 2 5 O W N w e e k f o r e w 0 7 : 6 3



# Too familiar to be exciting

FLAIR  
GREER FAY CASHMAN

**C**LICHES may be annoying, but they often contain more than a grain of truth. The cliché which comes to mind when surveying the fashion industry in Israel and abroad is that familiarity breeds contempt. Almost everywhere one goes in the rag trade, people are complaining that business is bad. And it's no surprise - there is so little that is new and exciting.

Designers seem to have run out of ideas. Retro, which started out as a cute gimmick, is here to stay, zig-zagging backwards and forwards from the flapper era, with so much déjà vu that one begins to suspect that designers have been replaced by parapsychologists.

At a time when pundits are forecasting a period of economic austerity, even the most fashion-conscious of women thinks twice before forking out for a new outfit. Does she really need it? Does her wardrobe already contain similar garments, and if so, are they in today's fashion colors? If the answers are No, Yes, Yes, she's not going to buy, even when the clothes are immaculately crafted such as, for instance, those bearing the Erreuno label which have joined the ever-growing list of high-fashion imports.

High fashion never comes cheap, and Erreuno, sold exclu-

sively at Silhouette boutiques in Tel Aviv, Jerusalem and Ramat Hasharon, has a price range veering between NIS 4,000 and NIS 6,000.

For the social butterfly who must have at least one new outfit each season, Erreuno, Versace, Kenzo, Armani, Max Mara and all the other international brand names, now available in Israel offer elegant choices - but not too much variety. There is a sameness that veiges on boring, even when the clothes are exquisitely cut and sewn.

Where some of the fashions may do well is in the booming religious market, which will gladly welcome long sleeves and maxi skirts. Some of the necklines are a little too daring for Orthodox requirements, but this can be easily remedied by a lace body suit, which enables the wearer to remain within the confines of modesty without compromising the design of the outer garment.

Fashion manufacturers, in an effort to promote sales, have been pushing grays, khakis, mahogany and dark wood browns rather than black, to virtually bulldoze women into buying.

But with the uncertainty of the financial future, many women are rummaging through their closets instead of the sales racks and coming up with long-forgotten



Erreuno, sold exclusively at Silhouette boutiques here, has a price range between NIS 4,000 and NIS 6,000.

treasures which are just perfect. One of the most important winter garments will be the frock coat, which after a long absence from the limelight is once again in the forefront.

# Glass in food: Yeah, so what?

CAVEAT EMPTOR!  
RUTHIE BLUM

**Q**UESTION: What's worse than finding a worm in your apple? Answer: Finding half a worm. Question: What's worse than finding half a worm in your apple? Answer: Finding a piece of broken glass in your can of Chinese food. Question: What's worse than finding glass in your Chinese food? Answer: Being ignored by the producers of that food, after you submit a complaint.

Most consumers don't give too much thought to the food they buy at the supermarket other than its taste and price. Unless it has foreign objects floating around in it, particularly if the objects are dangerous.

R.R. was invited to partake of a meal at a friend's house. While munching away at a "delicious" mouthful of canned Chinese vegetables, R.R. almost choked herself into the hospital. Among the other marinated delicacies was a shard of glass. Wasting no time, R.R. sent a letter of complaint to the Metzuyan Mazon company in Rosh Ha'ayin. In the letter, which she sent by registered mail, she enclosed the shard as evidence. This was in July. No response, either by telephone or by mail, was forthcoming.

As time went by, and R.R. had other pressing life-related matters to attend to, the fragment of glass was temporarily forgotten. When September and October rolled around, however, and still no word was received from Metzuyan

Mazon Ltd., R.R. became more annoyed by being ignored than she had been by having nearly cut her tongue.

Phoning the company on her behalf, I was told that "it is not possible that a customer who complained was ignored," since "we respond to anyone who turns to us."

"Fine," I said, "I'd like to speak to the manager and hear his response."

"No problem," said the unidentified person (perhaps the manager, not wishing to identify himself?) who answered my call. "We'll get back to you."

Like R.R., I'm still waiting.

Along the same lines, when S.R. opened a container of Strauss yoghurt, he was met with the unpleasant sight of a dead worm. Unlike R.R., he has not yet sent the object of his "distaste" to the company. Hopefully, he will not be ignored when he does. But what is it we consumers can do when our packaged food makes us question what other substances we may be ingesting without being aware of it?

The Health Ministry spokesman's office suggests the following: The first step is to do what R.R. did. Send a letter of complaint without the "evidence" - is virtually a waste of time. Without proof that some-

thing was wrong with a food product, there is little anyone can do. Furthermore, according to a ministry spokeswoman, some people make false claims in this area, in hope of being rewarded with "compensation" packages from certain companies.

If the first step produces no results, the next step is to phone the regional food-control department of the health office in your area to complain both about the food product, and about the company's attitude towards it. The health office can run tests on food which may be contaminated in some way (as in the case of the yoghurt), or packaged in a dangerous way (as, perhaps, in the case of the Chinese food).

The following is a list of the health offices you can contact if the need should arise:

Jerusalem (02) 531-4811; Tel Aviv (03) 563-4848; Haifa (04) 761-9777; Nazareth (06) 5730301; Ramle (08) 922-1263; Beersheba (07) 646-4711; Tiberias (06) 7918167 or 7918190; Netanya (09) 335052; Acre (04) 991-5901 or 9915902; Afeka (06) 5920167; Peah Tikva (03) 931-6221; Safed (06) 9709857; Rehovot/Rishon LeZion (08) 946-89945; Hadera (06) 3231145 or 341381.

You are invited to offer personal stories about goods and services in this country. Write to: Ruthie Blum, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

# Beaujolais Nouveau: Tonight we'll drink to that

DANIEL ROGOV

**E**VERY year, on the third Thursday of November, 50 million French men, women and children anxiously await the arrival of their favorite bars and bistros of the wine known as Beaujolais Nouveau. Two weeks ago, when I wrote about this wine in the *Jerusalem Post Magazine*, I observed, sadly that we Israelis would have to wait a few weeks longer than most Frenchmen to drink the wine of the 1996 harvest.

To my great surprise and pleasure, I was wrong, and several local importers have succeeded in making arrangements that will allow Tel Avivians, Jerusalemites and Haifaites to sample the wine tonight, at precisely the same hour that millions of other bottles will be opened in Paris, Tokyo, San Francisco and London.

Beaujolais Nouveau, which is made from Gamay grapes that were harvested barely eight weeks ago, is a wine with neither pretensions nor complexity. In fact, so frivolous is the wine that nobody takes it with even the least bit of seriousness. The truth is, however, that few wines offer greater pleasure, and the ritual of gathering together in bars, restaurants and wine stores to taste it is one of the most delightful events of any harvest year.

Made by the process known as carbonic maceration, which means that the whole bunches of grapes were allowed to ferment in sealed containers with carbon-dioxide gas, this is a wine with lots of fruit and color and very little of the tan-

nins that make some young wines hard and bitter. The light, crisp, fresh Nouveau Beaujolais is so easy to drink that many consider it at its best when served chilled and drunk not in small sips but in large mouthfuls.

At this writing, no one outside of the wineries of France has even the vaguest hint of what the 1996 wine will taste like. We do know that in mid-September the vines in the major Beaujolais Nouveau producing areas were in excellent condition; winemakers anticipate about the same quantity of wine as they had last year and are hoping that the quality will be quite high. One winemaker in France assured me in a telephone conversation (swearing on "his mother's eyes") that "the 1996 wine has a light, lively and unusually attractive red color, a clean and fresh taste, and a remarkable level of fruitiness."

Whether his prediction will prove fully accurate remains to be seen. Until tonight, however, speculation on just how high that quality will be, will be a topic of discussion of every major city in the world. Regardless of those speculations one can be quite certain that tonight, as the wine makes its first appearance, men and women who enjoy the combination of wine and sociability will once again be standing in line, waiting more or less patiently until the first glass is placed in front of them.

There are some who say the wine is overpriced and that the race to

## GEORGES DUBOEU

Le Beaujolais nouveau est arrivé!

night festivities will take place at Special Reserve, the wine store adjoining the Dan Carmel Hotel, and at the Ackerman wine store on Rehov HaZamla.

After the first-night celebrations are over, the wines will be available at many wine shops. The wine of DuBoeuf and Drouhin are expected to sell for about NIS 55 each; that of Reine Pédague for about NIS 49. The wine of Domaine Longere, which will cost NIS 42.50 per bottle will be sold exclusively at Tirosh Auction house in Herzliya Pithul during special sales to be held from 11 a.m. to about 5 p.m. on the 29th and 30th of the month. Keep in mind that most stores offer discounts for purchases of full cases or more.

# Millennium bug approaches

**S**OME European firms are still unaware they could face oblivion because of the millennium bug, which is set to cause mayhem in some computers at midnight on December 31, 1999, business leaders told a conference earlier this month.

The problem could also hit some computers in Israel.

As clocks tick past the start of the new millennium, many computers across the world will either crash or start pumping out wrong data.

Despite widespread publicity about the threat, many companies have failed to take action soon enough and many could find their systems crashing - possibly triggering a company collapse.

"By the end of 1999, more than 50 percent of information technology (IT) firms will have systems producing erroneous results because of the 2000 issue," Gartner Group analyst Peter Sondergaard told the conference.

The problem stems from shortcuts taken by programmers in the '70s and '80s who tried to save computer memory by abbreviating dates to the last two digits. This will work fine until the end of the 20th century, but computers will read the year 2000 as 00, sparking possibly fatal errors.

Scouring through millions of lines of computers' software code to solve the problem will take a massive army of computer programmers.

European IT leaders at the conference expressed concern at the worldwide threat posed by the bug, which many companies are only just beginning to wake up to.

"We have to raise the profile [of the problem] to make sure all industries are aware of it," Lucio Stanca, general manager of IBM said.

Stanca was on a panel with leaders of COMPAQ Computer Corp., French computer maker Groupe Bull, Germany's Siemens Nixdorf, and German software giant SAP AG to discuss the impact of information technology in Europe. The conference was organized by US technology consultancy Gartner Group.

"This is a huge problem. Time is critical; when we get closer, demand for fixes will get huge and industry may not be able to handle it," Stanca said.

Stanca said that this would not include IBM's customers, telling the conference: "We have made this commitment that all our products will be enabled for the year 2000." Information technology experts fear that even though a huge amount of effort will be invested in curing this problem before 2000, many programs dating back to the 1970s are buried deep in computer systems and will resist discovery.

Some forecasters have said the problem could be serious enough not only to cause many corporate bankruptcies, but might even trigger a world economic depression.

The industry leaders said they would stand by their customers.

"We have a duty to safeguard our customers, and all ours will be Year 2000 compliant. It is a huge investment, a huge task; we have 300 people working on this," said Jean Marie Descauprenies, chairman and chief executive of Groupe Bull.

Gerhard Schulmeyer, president and chief executive of Siemens Nixdorf, said his company would not abandon its customers, but added that it had to be a joint effort. Schulmeyer reminded the conference that a huge amount of computer time was also needed for companies to prepare for European economic and monetary union, set to go ahead on January 1, 1999.

"We are assuming it will happen. But it will take so many resources that other projects will fall by the wayside," Schulmeyer said. (Reuter)

# BARGAIN BASEMENT

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**'96, NIS 90 set of 18**, 04-823-2641

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**CHILDREN'S SLIDE** - indoor, NIS 100; rocking horse, NIS 75; Comfy Keyboard, NIS 200, as new. 03-641-9612.

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**STACKING SHELF** - for washer/dryer, NIS 350 o.b.o. 03-710-7586 (day).

**LEATHER JACKET** - women's, size 48, NIS 350. 03-650-9171.

**WICKER SWAG CEILING LAMP** - US plug, NIS 50; 30 paperbacks (Ludlum, Jackie Collins, Le Carré, S. Sheldon, L. Deighton, G. Green and more), NIS 5 each. 02-673-8192, NIS.

**LOFT BED** - practically new, pine wood, NIS 350. 02-672-4804.

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**NEW SNEAKERS** - Nike Air, 13/47.5, NIS 175. 02-651-9943.

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**ORTHOPEDIC ANKLE BRACE** - new, perfect for ankle injury, fits inside shoe, NIS 300. 02-533-5172.

**LIGHT FIXTURE** - large, round, fluorescent, for ceiling or wall, 49 cm, hard to find, like new, NIS 75. 02-563-1990.

**GRAVITY INVERSION DEVICE** - for bad back, NIS 80. 02-538-5590.

**LADIES WATCH** - new, large face.

NIS 165; blender, new, Hamilton Beach, 7-speed, needs transformer, NIS 60. 02-537-3314, NIS.

**NIKE LEATHER SNEAKERS** - size 41, new, NIS 175; ladies' Soft Spots leather moccasins, wide 39, NIS 175. 02-535-1975, NIS.

**CANNON SHURESHOT CAMERA** - still in box, NIS 350. 02-643-3068, NIS.

**DOUBLE DUVET** - feather/down for full-size bed, good condition, NIS 200. 02-571-0206.

**DOWN COMFORTER** - NIS 150; ladies' wool coat, size 44, NIS 150. 02-643-8661.

**SINGLE BED** - with 2 large drawers and mattress, wood, NIS 350. 02-566-6435.

**AMERICAN CLOTHES AND SHOES** - 2 large boxes, medium and small sizes, new condition, NIS 250; B&W television, free to buyer, perfect picture. 02-585-8023.

**MATTRESS** - NIS 50; coffee table (bamboo and glass), NIS 120; exercise mat, NIS 100; sofa (upholstery needs repair), NIS 60. 02-586-8589, NIS.

**BICYCLE** - needs some repair, NIS 100. 02-566-1005.

**GRILL/TOASTER OVEN** - Accord, new, white, timer, thermostat, NIS 280. 02-582-5516.

**WOMEN'S WALKING SHOES** - arch support, very comfortable, almost new, Oxford wedge, US, extra-depth, size 7 1/2 DVA, wine color, NIS 150. 02-581-1294, NIS.

**FOOT MASSAGER** - new in box, NIS 250; 100% camel-wool rug, as new, reddish brown, NIS 100. 02-563-2595.

**SKI GLOVES** - ladies, large, NIS 40; bedspread/blanket, acrylic, like candlewick, cream colored, 220/220 cm, NIS 75 o.b.o. 02-652-6634.

**MEN'S SUIT** - new, from Australia, dark blue, size 42-44, NIS 280. 02-651-9424.

**DOWN QUILT** - as new, NIS 275; shoe rack, NIS 35; mattress protector, NIS 30. 02-537-4546, NIS.

**MEN'S DOUBLE-BREASTED JACKET** - navy blue, new, pure wool, M&S, size 38 in. (97 cm), medium length, NIS 350. 02-566-6241.

**MEN'S JACKETS** - sizes 52 and 54, and pants, NIS 50 each. 02-591-7554.

**CAMERA** - Canon Sure-Shot M, new, never used, NIS 315. 02-586-2927, after 5 p.m.

**BOOKSHELVES** - NIS 250 W X 96 L, wood, NIS 225; kerosene heater, Friedman, like new, NIS 125. 02-641-8370.

**BED** - spring base, English, 90x190, NIS 300 o.b.o. 02-651-1489, NIS.

**MEN'S PANTS** - almost new, sizes 34-36, dark colors, NIS 30 each. 02-581-2850.

**BABY CAR SEAT** - Century, NIS 150. 02-671-3247.

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**TEACH YOURSELF RUSSIAN** - phrase book and three cassettes, new, NIS 50. 02-566-1005.

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**CHILDREN'S BOOKS** - ages 1-3, NIS 5 each; compact disc, Kenny Rogers, NIS 12; *Prevention* health magazines, NIS 3 each. 02-561-1240, NIS.

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**WOODEN DOLL'S HOUSE** - new or second-hand, 09-582-0778.

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**COMPUTER MONITOR** - SVGA or VGA, to purchase, 04-853-0764.

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**REFRIGERATOR** - badly needed by senior citizens' club. 02-581-1958, mornings or early even.

**GAME GEAR WITH GAMES** - vacuum cleaner, girl's coat size 7. 02-993-1266.

**BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY REVIEW** - magazines from first issue on; archeological artifacts (legal of course). 02-653-6349.

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**ROCKING CHAIR** - comfortable. 02-652-4717.

**AMFM CASSETTE** - with counter, prefer small size. 02-563-8351.

**MOUNTAIN BIKE** - reasonably priced or as donation for yeshiva in the Gush area. 02-581-3549.

**SMALL FRIDGE** - for non-profit organization. Bracha, 02-623-6083.

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## Unchanged melody

**N**ERO may have fiddled while Rome burned, but in these more enlightened days, the United Nations manages to ignore global brush fires while it gets on with the important task of trying to fiddle the choice of who is to head the creaking organization.

The directors of any corporation that has to pursue its goals in a competitive and unpredictable world could assess and solve the UN leadership problem in a matter of minutes. A major investor is withholding substantial funds because it thinks the current corporation chairman has failed to address major organizational problems. The investor has long made it clear it wants him replaced and in any case has a veto on the choice of chairman. The problem solves itself - faced with a veto, the chairman must step down gracefully, take his golden handshake and vanish onto the lecture circuit, while the corporation briskly gets on with electing a new chief executive officer.

Not so the United Nations. The very haggling over who should be secretary-general is in itself an example of what is wrong with the organization - incompetence, poor planning and consultation, the priority of pettiness over necessity, and a failure to get the job done. With tiresome predictability, the self-elected spokespeople of the Third World have declared it is all the fault of the United States and, rather than seeking an alternative candidate to Boutros Boutros-Ghali, have decided to waste time extracting as much propaganda juice from the impasse as possible.

Of course, as well as the United States, Britain, France, China and Russia, all have veto power on the 10-member security council. It just happens that these members are strong supporters of Boutros-Ghali, yet the British UN Ambassador Sir John Weston very sensibly told council members that while London would have liked to see Boutros-Ghali reelected, US opposition simply has changed the situation and members should deal with it and move on.

Instead, the squabbling members want either to force a compromise on the United States, such as a half term for Boutros-Ghali, or - even more petty - want "to maximize the damage of

the dispute" in the words of one diplomat who added "in doing so, they will damage the credibility of the United Nations." The reporter of the remark might well have asked the diplomat "what credibility?"

It is clear that though the world has changed since the days of the Cold War, many United Nations members continue merrily along their unchanged, inefficient, money-grabbing, West-bashing, pathways and furthermore expect the United States to foot the bill. The ultimate condemnation of the way the United Nations conducts its business is the fact that the candidates African and other countries want to promote are being considered because they come from their regions or from certain (usually backward) political alignments. Hardly a voice has been raised to protest that maybe the best person for the job should be chosen - someone who would clamp down on the glaring abuses in the United Nations and redefine desirable and achievable goals before the next century catches it by surprise.

The simple fact stated by Washington is that the Egyptian diplomat Boutros-Ghali has been less than successful in a job that now requires an entirely new caliber of leader. His failure has been one of leadership, pure and simple. There remains a bloated bureaucracy, agenda-driven and money-gobbling UN organizations, inept officials who hold top jobs not on merit but on the principle the British call "Buggins' turn." All are as firmly entrenched now as when Boutros-Ghali arrived.

The time has come to turn this "job for the boys" organization over to a new breed of leader entirely. The organization could do far worse this time than to make "one of the boys" one of the girls - there are plenty of promising women candidates. At the very least, the Security Council should stop its Third World squabbling. It might also try to ensure the job goes to someone who can be guaranteed to do better as head of the United Nations than any of the previous secretaries-general have ever done to improve conditions in their home countries.

## Romania chooses real change

**O**F all the countries of eastern Europe which formerly were in the Communist bloc, Romania has left the most nagging doubts that the job begun with getting rid of Nicolae Ceausescu has been left unfinished. Last weekend's election hopefully should go some way to redress that.

The 57-year-old Emil Constantinescu won the presidential contest with a far bigger margin - 54 to 46 percent over the incumbent Ion Iliescu - than polls and pundits had predicted. The president-elect is well aware that Romania is the most ill-favored of the eastern poor cousins of Europe and it continues to remain a dismal image. The European public knows Romania from the images of its scandalous orphanages full of unwanted and neglected children, investors and businessmen know it as the regional basket case where theft and bureaucratic dishonesty are rampant and which has failed to deliver on promises of authentic democratic and market reforms.

Constantinescu is well aware of the challenge: "We will only succeed if we do away with incompetence and theft and if the austerity program starts with austerity for people at the top."

The president-elect also benefited from a particularly crass error by the outgoing president who accused Romania's substantial Hungarian minority during his election campaign of being disloyal to the state and not real Romanians. Constantinescu picked up 92 percent of the 1.6 million ethnic Hungarian votes and, added to his powerful showing among the educated urban middle classes, the result paints an electoral image of a man seen as good for national unity and reconciliation, as well as for promoting progress, business and the good life.

That indeed would be a welcome change in a country that has appeared to be headed down a divisive and seedy pathway for the past couple of years. The post-Ceausescu government has all too often raised suspicion that the overthrow of the dictator was not a genuine democratic movement, as in the Czech republic, Hungary or Poland, but a mere putsch by one faction against another.

The new president now has a chance to bring Romania into line with the other progressive newly-democratic states of Europe. He may only have one chance to do so.



## Facts of the matter

**L**ONG before Israel's election last spring Binyamin Netanyahu's enemies, home-grown and Western, warned that if he won the economy of Israel would swiftly be shot to bits.

Direct foreign investment in Israel would plunge downward. So would foreign investment in Israeli stock markets. Israel's foreign-exchange holdings and credit rating would dive. Trade with Arabs - forget it.

Now predictions are stated as fact in newspaper columns and op-ed pieces. They announce that investment by foreigners is falling steadily. Arab businessmen are edging away, hope for huge Israeli-Arab regional projects is gone.

When predictions are stated as reality they achieve their objective of worrying more people, including potential investors.

I believe that even if the predictions had become fact Israelis were right to select Netanyahu, not Shimon Peres, to protect their security. But there is no evidence that the predictions have become fact, considerable indication they have not.

The latest statistics from the apolitical Bank of Israel show that direct foreign investment in Israel increased 29 percent to a record \$1.936b. in the first nine months of 1996, as compared with the same period last year. Foreign investments in Israeli financial markets increased from \$700m. to \$1.1b. Foreign exchange stands at a new high of \$11b.

The bank says it does not keep monthly tabs...So it cannot say how much of the increase happened during Labor's five months in power this year, how much in Likud's four. But top nonpolitical Israeli economists say there is no sign of a turnaround during the Likud's months, particularly of

**A.M. ROSENTHAL**

foreign investment in Israel's pivotal high-tech industries.

The recent economic conference in Cairo showed Arabs eager to deal with Israel - obviously saying that peace with the Palestinians would increase trade. About those ideas of vast Arab-Israeli projects for airports and power stations - no, none took place in the Likud's months.

But none took place in all of Labor's years in power. Maybe they never will. Trust between Arabs and Israelis is too fragile for them to root their economies in some joint rose garden.

ARAB and Israeli economists understand that growth lies in smaller enterprises. Not in dreams that multinational corporations will come a-dancing to invest billions in mammoth projects between longtime enemies in an area given to war, terrorism and shaky dictatorships.

Meanwhile Israeli inflation goes down, from the 15 percent Labor bequeathed to 11 percent now. Israel's international credit rating, reconfirmed recently, was never higher.

All this will come as a disappointment to Israelis and Westerners who yearn for the

Netanyahu government to become so destabilized that it will have to take Peres and Labor into a coalition, giving him power that the voters declined to renew.

Another piece of depressing news for destabilization fans is expected soon: agreement on Hebron. It would give Israel the right not only to pursue terrorists into the Arab sections after they kill Jews but to go in if it gets credible word that killings were being planned.

The Hebron issue was hyped by Yasser Arafat, Peres - who never settled it when he was in power - and President Clinton. More critical issues remain between Israel and the Palestinians, including Palestinian statehood, the size and armor of the Palestinian army, and Jerusalem.

And, though it has escaped Western interest, the Israelis not only have to protect themselves against terrorism, but also against countries that dearly want to destroy them, including Syria, Iraq and Iran.

A military alliance by these countries against Israel is not a fantasy but the essence of strategy.

By voting for Netanyahu most Israeli Jews knew they might pay an economic price to protect their national and individual lives. Western opponents of Netanyahu were taken aback by the decision, so disrespectful to the supremacy of trade balance sheets.

The voters gave Netanyahu the right and duty to risk paying an economic price for his country's security. It has not come to that, according to the Bank of Israel.

But if ever it does, Netanyahu will continue to have the same right and bear the same duty - like every other elected leader.

(Courtesy of the New York Times)

## People's army

YOSEF GOELL

**O**N her popular morning radio talk show recently Shelli Yechimovitz interviewed the editor of *Ma'ariv's* women's supplement, who said she was being inundated with letters from women shaking over the prospect of sending their 18-year-olds off to do army service.

It went totally against the grain, against their role as mothers, which is to do everything in their power to protect their children.

The editor stressed her own neutral position, adding though that she felt it was her duty to open her pages to the discussion of such an important social phenomenon.

Her claim of neutrality was disingenuous, to say the least. By first highlighting this (unrebutted) point of view and further magnifying it on Israel Radio's highest-rated morning program the two journalists were in fact according those views considerable social legitimacy.

Not that I oppose a judicious, balanced airing of the issue; on the contrary, I believe it could come to grips with the implications of the decline in army morale rather better than the jernied chief of staff had delivered a day earlier.

That we are finally confronting the morale problem rather than continuing to deny it is healthy. And the problem does exist; those mothers' fears are quite normal. They are also in the mainstream of Jewish historical tradition.

We have been perhaps the most anti-militaristic of peoples for the past 18 centuries, ever since the bloody suppression of the Bar Kochba revolt of 135 CE. This attitude began to change only in the 1940s, in response to the imminent demise of the British Mandate and the total helplessness of European Jewry in the face of the Holocaust.

**We are at last admitting the morale problem exists - and that's a beginning.**

Such a profound and sudden change in deeply-entrenched attitudes was near-miraculous and could easily be reversed if we do not exercise vigilance against the periodic outcropping of our long-established contradictory and suicidal instincts.

One may ask: Are we still a nation under military threat? Isn't peace around the corner? If the threat has truly disappeared why continue to risk our lives and our children's?

The answer lies in our difficulty in understanding complex situations and in our insistence on thinking in black and white.

We have entered on a process that could lead to a reduction of hostilities; but the history of the past three years shows there is no "total peace" around the corner.

Yitzhak Rabin was at times quite honest in presenting the "peace process" as crucial in preparing Israel to confront even greater strategic threats more effectively.

On that there is a broad middle consensus among most Labor and Likud leaders. But narrow party politics has made it impossible for most of them to project such a complex, realistic view.

And it is that failure which has been so ruinous to national and army morale.

Meanwhile the morale problem can be dealt with only by redistributing the security burden more fairly. And the problem is most acute in the reserves.

According to MK Ra'anana Cohen, 70 percent of men between the ages of 22 and 50 do not do reserve duty. The catastrophic proportions of this avoidance could well lead to the total collapse of the reserve army system.

One thing is obvious. The IDF high command is part of the problem and cannot be expected to come up with solutions.

The problem calls for the urgent intervention of the government, or preferably the more widely-based Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, which must reassert its primacy over what is basically a people's army.

The writer comments on public affairs.

**Predictions that a Netanyahu victory would mean an economy swiftly shot to bits do not seem to have materialized**

## Women hold the key

**I**sat in the Knesset balcony on Tuesday and listened to MKs talking about violence against women.

Ya'el Dayan read out a list of names of women who have been murdered by their partners. Silvan Shalom said we needed to do more. Various other MKs spoke about the need for prevention and education, but none seemed very clear about how to go about it.

The prime minister hit the nail on the head when he called violence against women and children another form of terror.

Physical, verbal, psychological, mental or sexual abuse is terrorism. Often the physical abuse is the last to manifest itself after the others have been evident in the relationship.

My ex-husband never hit me. I wish he had. He was an expert at psychological terror.

He would drop "bombs" on me out of the blue, devastating my life while he remained in control. Only after 5 1/2 years was I able to figure out what was going on and see a clear pattern.

Mark (not his real name) used violence in a subtle way. When he became angry because, for example, his favorite sports team wasn't performing to his expectations, he would pummel the wall with his fists. It was enough to scare me and keep me in line.

He would deliberately pick arguments with me right before we went out, then threaten to leave me behind unless I promised "to be good." When we did go, he degraded me in front of our friends.

He started refusing to take me to restaurants because I "didn't know how to behave properly in public." He wouldn't talk to me because I was "stupid and boring" and wouldn't do anything with me after we were married because I suddenly "didn't know how to have fun."

It got to the point that he would refuse to go to the store and get me something or even open a can of soup and fix it if I was ill.

Having to get up, get dressed and get out in the middle of a Minnesota winter with six or seven feet of snow on the ground when you have the flu is not a lot of fun.

**CAROL RUSHTON**

From time to time he would threaten to divorce me, saying we didn't have anything in common. Two minutes later he would look at me in astonishment and ask, "Carol, why are you crying?" He did this the evening before we were supposed to sign for our house.

AFTER a particularly horrible weekend I finally realized something was very wrong. He was angry

**Pretty speeches and passing laws are very nice but they won't solve the problem of family violence**

I'm sure that had I stayed in the marriage, physical abuse would have been next.

Pretty speeches and passing laws are very nice, but they won't solve the problem of family violence. Nor will spending large sums of money on rehabilitating these men. They usually don't change. Even if they want to, they often can't; they are too locked into their set behavior patterns.

The key is educating women before they become involved with these men. And there are almost always warning signs early on in a relationship.

When Mark, a keen golfer, and I were dating he once missed a putt during a game and got so enraged he threw his golf club across the green and began cursing violently. I pushed the incident to the back of my mind; now I realize it should have made me question continuing the relationship.

Women who have been in violent relationships and learned to spot the warning signs are the best ones to talk to others. Their personal experience will have a greater impact than any psychologist ever could.

If I had heard someone talk about what had happened to them, perhaps it wouldn't have happened to me.

The writer is a radio journalist living in Jerusalem.

**POSTSCRIPTS**

A JOURNALIST'S job isn't as easy as it seems, as witness the adventures of Diane Thompson.

The reporter for Los Angeles radio station KNX was in her car one recent morning when she was told to head for the Century Plaza Hotel and do an immediate live feed on Natan Sharansky, addressing a conference on the Israeli economy.

Thompson rushed to the hotel and was directed to a room where an Israeli dignitary was speaking to a group of people. At this point, her station signaled that she was on the air, so Thompson whipped

out her mike and started the interview.

And indeed, she got a very good interview with Sharansky, except that the gentleman was Ron Nachman, mayor of Ariel.

Nachman was the guest of the Rev. Jerry Falwell, and for the next few minutes, spoke animatedly on the meeting's topic, namely the importance of returning to fundamental religious values.

None of the KNX listeners seemed bothered by the change of topics, but the station eventually issued a clarification.

(Tom Tugend)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR USE ABROAD**

Sir - With reference to attorney Leon Fine's article in your recent real-estate supplement, I would like to clarify the verification requirements for a power-of-attorney agreement signed in Israel for use overseas.

If the power-of-attorney agreement is not signed before a consular officer of the overseas state, it must be signed before an Israeli notary. The notary's signature must then be verified by the Ministry of Justice in Jerusalem. In addition, and in order to assist the public, the minister has given authority to the Chief Clerk of the Magistrates' Courts in Tel Aviv and Haifa to verify the signatures of notaries in their areas.

If the overseas state is a signatory to the Hague Convention, which can be checked out at the time of verification, as apostille will be affixed and signed. The power-of-attorney agreement can then be sent overseas.

If however, the overseas state is not a signatory to the Hague Convention, after verification as above, the power-of-attorney agreement must be taken to the consular department of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in Jerusalem before it can be sent overseas.

**ETTY ESHED,**  
Spokesperson,  
Ministry of Justice  
Jerusalem.

**CANADIANS IN ISRAEL**

Sir - For a book on Canadians in Israel, including those who arrived long before statehood, I am interested in receiving on loan (to be returned) memoirs, anecdotes, personal and family histories, sagas of early absorption, hardships, successes, failures, recollections of those who returned.

**MELVIN FENSON**  
Jerusalem.

**JERUSALEM GRAND MUFTI**

Sir - Jay Bushinsky did not have to wait for Jennie Lebel's 1993 book on Jerusalem's Grand Mufti of Mandate days, Haj Amin el-Husseini, to learn about el-Husseini's Nazi links and active attempts to participate in the Holocaust ("Startling cover-up," October 27).

Joseph B. Schechtman's volume on the subject, published in 1965, contains all relevant material necessary to realize that el-Husseini's traveling to Berlin, his meetings with Hitler and other high Nazi officials as well as his coordinated trips throughout the Balkans, were a natural outcome of his anti-Jewish campaign, begun in 1920 and bequeathed to the Fatah (Yasser Arafat attended his funeral) and the other Arab terror organizations.

**YISRAEL MEDAD**  
Shiloh.

**PROSTATE CANCER**

Sir - Many thanks for your informative article of November 10, "Bringing prostate cancer out of the closet."

I recently received an article on prostate cancer published in *Sports Illustrated* that raised frightening questions to which your article gave definitive answers, and that you reported so well from responsible and authoritative sources. Because of your acumen in reporting journalism, I will now be able to sit with my doctor, and in a calm mode, show him the "scare tactic" of the American Cancer Society and Cancer Research Institute that was displayed in a full page ad sponsored by - guess who? - (the bottom line in small, small print: "Schering Corporation is proud to sponsor the Prostate Cancer Initiative"). What do you think the odds are that the Schering Corporation produces the Prostate Specific Antigen test kit?

**STANLEY KIMMEL**  
Neveh Ilan.



# Care for yourself – then for hubby



**DEAR RUTHIE,** My husband is very infirm and difficult for me to care for. I, too, am getting on in years, though I am in good health. The problem is that my husband refuses to let anyone else feed, bathe, or shave him. He feels uncomfortable having a stranger – even if the stranger is a registered nurse – perform these "intimate" tasks for him. Our situation is that we still live in our own home, as neither of us wishes to move into a home for the elderly. Luckily, we have the financial means to hire help. But though I understand my husband's ill ease, I am too exhausted to do all of the things for him which I have been doing. How can I convince him to allow a private nurse to live with us?

Exhausted Elder  
Ramat Hasharon

Dear EE,  
Before you will be able to convince your husband to accept outside assistance, you must first convince yourself that hiring a private nurse does not constitute a shirk-

ing of your responsibilities. Your husband may not wish to have a "stranger" perform "intimate tasks" for him, but if you were to collapse from exhaustion as a result of having to perform the tasks yourself, he would then have no choice but to succumb. Instead of reaching the point at which circumstances such as these force him into compliance, it is possible for you to impose your will in advance. Obviously, imposing your will on this particular issue has been even more difficult for you than tending to your husband's physical needs. But now that the scales are tipping in the other direction, you will have to muster up the inner strength to believe that your needs are worth at least equal consideration. If you can manage to invest your mental energy in withstanding emotional pressure put on you by your husband, both you and your husband will emerge victorious. Furthermore, a private nurse will only be a "stranger" initially.

**DEAR RUTHIE**  
RUTHIE BLUM

Eventually, she (or he) can become a part of the family.

Dear Ruthie,  
My granddaughter entered the army not long ago, and since then she has begun behaving in a way I find offensive. She brings boys home for the weekend, and they spend the night in her bedroom. I am upset with my son and daughter-in-law for allowing this, but especially peeved when they allow it in my presence. Last Shabbat, for example, when I was a guest at my son's house, my granddaughter had a boy over. They even had the goil to wake up late, and come to the table in a slovenly state of half-dress, just to eat in a hurry, and run off when they were done.

Should I have a talk with my granddaughter or with my son? I think my daughter-in-law will see this as interference.

Grimacing Granny  
Haifa

Dear Grimacing Gran,

I hate to break this to you, but having a talk with your son or with his daughter will not serve to alter the situation. Unless your purpose is to announce that you do not wish to be invited on a weekend during which your granddaughter plans on being present with a male escort in tow.

It is your prerogative to disapprove of your son and daughter-in-law's house rules regarding their daughter. It is your prerogative to stay away from their home when your granddaughter has a boy sleep over. But it is not in your power to change their mores.

Their manners, however, are a different story. If wolfing down a Shabbat meal and running off at its conclusion is behavior which offends you as a grandmother and as a guest, you certainly have the right to speak your mind. Just take into account that reprimands often have the opposite effect on those reprimanded than the reprimander originally intends.

Letters should be addressed to: 'Dear Ruthie,' POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. For E-mail: editors@jpost.co.il

# In pursuit of 'parity democracy'

True democracy includes proper representation of women, according to a consultant on women's empowerment, Gail Lichtman writes



Abdela: It is quite interesting that Palestinian and Israeli women share the same problems.

**P**ARITY democracy may sound like some kind of Euro-speak gobbledegook, but for Lesley Abdela these two words have become a powerful argument for advancing women.

"Usually, I don't like Euro-speak, but this is one phrase I have adopted because what it is saying is that unless women are roughly in equal numbers in the decision-making levels of the political process, a country is not a democracy. This is a very strong argument in Britain (where I am from), in Israel and in the world," she states.

Abdela, an internationally recognized consultant for the advancement and empowerment of women in public life, who recently spent a week in Israel as a guest of the British Council, brought this message to Jewish, Arab, Palestinian and Beduin women. She is a senior partner in her own equal-opportunities consultancy firm, founder of the UK All-Party 300 group (whose aim is to get more women elected to the British Parliament) and winner of the 1996 UK Woman of Europe Award.

In Nevah Shalom, Abdela was the keynote speaker at an international conference which included Israeli Arab and Jewish women as well as some 24 South African women leaders. In Beersheba, she conducted a political skills workshop for Beduin women. In Jerusalem, she led a discussion for a mainly Jewish audience on women in politics. In Haifa, she lectured on breaking the glass ceiling in the workplace, and in Nazareth, she conducted a workshop on empowerment for Israeli Arab women. In addition, she ran two workshops on lobbying skills for Palestinian women in Gaza and Ramallah.

Over the past three years, Abdela has trained both women and men for parity democracy in Ghana, India, Malta, Jordan, Egypt, Ukraine, Lithuania and Nigeria. But this was the first time she has ever done this in a developed country.

While this was not Abdela's first trip to Israel (she took a backpack vacation trip 18 years ago), it was the first time she really got to meet Israeli women and hear their views firsthand.

"I had the pleasure of meeting three of women MKs – Communications Minister Limor Livnat, MK Yael Dayan and MK Naomi Chazan, and lots of women movers and shakers. From the international press, you get the impression that the whole of Israel is of one particular political view – conservative, right wing. I never realized how many women there are working for coexistence and a peaceful outcome in this country."

The two workshops for Palestinian women added another

dimension to Abdela's visit. "It is quite interesting that Palestinian and Israeli women share the same problems. Both have a lot in common in terms of barriers and legislation, the attitudes of society towards women in politics, the problems of religious laws and attitudes, the ongoing military culture, etc."

"I understand that only 10% of the local councillors in Israel are women and only nine out of 120 Knesset members. There are only five women out of 88 on the Palestinian Council."

"Palestinian women want the legislation of the Palestinian Council to be gender sensitive, which means that women are included and the laws are what they want. So, they have come up with a marvelous idea [which will take place next March] to engage men in debate. They have divided legislation into five sectors and will be having a model parliament on each sector in which women elected by other women will take part in policy debates with top male opinion makers on policies women want."

"This is a good exercise in practical democracy. And it is the first time that I have ever heard of any country where this has been done. I am very excited and I think, if it works, we can use it as a model for other countries."

Abdela was also very excited about the Nevah Shalom conference devoted to developing solidarity between Israeli and South African women. Sponsored by the New Israel Fund and Shatil, its support project for voluntary organizations, the event brought together Jewish and Arab activists from Israeli women's organizations with 24 of their South African counterparts.

"The South African women were sharing their experiences, after having gone through a very bitter conflict, on how they are rebuilding their society."

"South Africa is particularly

exciting today because no committee that is involved in dismantling apartheid and rebuilding society has any validity unless there are at least 25% women members. And many of the committees have 50%."

The New Israel Fund workshop in Beersheba for 40 young Beduin women was another eye opener. "What came out was that on top of the same issues that Arab and Jewish women in Israel and Palestinian women face, were the extra layers of it not being generally accepted for women to go out of the home for education or work."

"But in spite of this, these women are doing some amazing things. They are running some really good income-generating projects – weaving things at home. They even have put out a catalog and are selling not only in Israel but in other countries as well. Also they have set up a network for second-year women university students to help first-year students because there are only about 15 or 20 Beduin women in Israeli universities."

Abdela feels it is very important for these Beduin women, many of whom feel isolated in their struggle, to hear that other women have had to overcome the same forces. "I was actually telling them that not so long ago in Britain girls had to stay home and it was not considered the right thing to go to university. Women could only get a full Cambridge degree from about 1948. I don't think anybody's ever said to them that other societies have had some of the same things to face."

"The Palestinian women [are] so used to carefully trying to piece together something positive out of an awful mess. The Israeli women [are] working to see if they can build bridges and change things. If only these groups were running things in this region. Imagine if the Knesset were 50% women MKs. I just think it would all be different."



Demonstrators fasten a banner earlier this week outside Texaco's Los Angeles refinery calling for a boycott of the company following its multi-million-dollar settlement of a race discrimination suit. The sign reads: 'Do not buy Texaco.'

# Racism comes out of the closet in corporate America

**A**MERICANS have recently expressed shock and astonishment at allegations of overt racism inside the Texaco oil and Avis car-rental companies, and those who are amazed aren't black.

As sordid stories seep out that some Avis Rent-A-Car locations rebuffed prospective black customers for no good reason, and that senior Texaco officials derided African-American employees as "black jelly beans" and worse, many blacks are left with an "I told you so" feeling.

"This demonstrates that we aren't just paranoid about the country we live in," said Todd Boyd, associate professor of popular culture at the University of Southern California. "I didn't need the managers at Texaco to confirm that for me, but that's what they did."

Lawrence Otis Graham, whose White Plains, New York, consulting firm tracks the progress of minorities and women in corporate America, said he wished the cases at Texaco and Avis were aberrations. He doubts they are. "Many companies have no idea how bad a job they are doing," Graham said.

Charges of racism are nothing new for police and courts, but the Avis and Texaco cases gave

the public rare glimpses of how attitudes about race can collide with big business.

In the same way, videotaped evidence of Rodney King's beating in Los Angeles lent credence to longtime claims by minorities of widespread police brutality, Graham said. The Texaco and Avis cases will cement forever the image of racist corporate executives for many blacks, he added.

"Upper- and middle-class whites can cause the greatest harm because they have the power. They can keep corporate boardrooms all white, or exclude blacks from living in a neighborhood," said Joe Feagin, a University of Florida sociology professor who has researched America's race relations for 30 years.

Civil rights lawyers in North Carolina filed a class-action lawsuit in federal court against Avis and the owner of five Avis outlets in North and South Carolina for refusing to rent cars to blacks.

The lawyers representing would-be customers said corporate officials did nothing to stop it. A former manager for Avis Rent-A-Car says franchises in the Carolinas denied rentals to blacks over the past few years "if there was any way out of it."

Eleven days after a tape of a secretly recorded Texaco board meeting was made public, the oil giant settled a long-pending \$520 million class-action lawsuit Friday for \$176.1m. – the largest settlement of a racial-discrimination suit in the US. The suit alleged prejudice in Texaco's treatment of minority employees, and the tape added to the evidence, depicting executives using racial slurs and speaking of destroying documents sought by the plaintiffs.

Feagin said that outside of the rare public disclosure of racism from sports executives such as Cincinnati Reds owner Marge Schott and former general manager Al Campanis of the Los Angeles Dodgers, corporate officials generally keep incendiary issues of race at arm's length. "Corporate executives usually cover their tracks so well," Feagin said. "For me, the most chilling aspect is no other person in the [Texaco] meeting

spoke out against the language, or against destroying evidence. There wasn't one anti-racist at the meeting."

Feagin, who is white, said he thinks no one objected because whites hold far more racist attitudes than commonly perceived.

He cited a 1992 Anti-Defamation League national survey that listed eight stereotypes for people on intelligence, criminality and desire to work. More than 75 percent of respondents said one or more of the negative stereotypes was true for blacks, 55 percent two or more were true, and almost 30 percent said all the characteristics were true, Feagin said.

"We whites are in denial," Feagin said. "Our top political leaders, scholars and commentators all tell themselves and the general public that racism is dead or dying, and it's a great white lie. Racism is very much alive."

(AP)

## SYRIA AND ISRAEL - From War to Peace-making

Moshe Ma'oz examines the history of relations between Israel and Syria throughout the Middle Eastern conflict, demonstrating its crucial importance for the strategic posture of both countries, and for the prospects of an overall Middle East peace settlement. Published by Oxford University Press, 1995. Hardcover, 262 pp.

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**Lous** Tel: 06-947880

**The Arts Museum of Art**  
26.11.96 at 20:30  
Purchases of tickets through: **The Arts Museum of Art**  
Tel: 03-661127



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Thursday, November 21, 1996

## Koor may sell Israel Edible stake to CPC

DAVID HARRIS and news agencies

KOOR Industries Ltd. is at an advanced stage of negotiations to sell its 24.5 percent share of food distributor Tami - Israel Edible Products to US-based CPC International Inc. Koor refused to reveal the terms of the deal, experts suggest the shares to be worth some \$35 million to \$45m. CPC already hold a 51% share of IEP, with the remaining 24.5% owned by the family of the late George Factor. Tami already distributes a variety of CPC brand name products, including Mazola and Knorr. The firm also produces and markets Telma products, Blue-Band margarine, Vered Hagail chocolate and 778 preserves. Koor says the sale of its Israel Edible Products holdings is part of an overall strategy to get out of activities which are not central to its operations, and instead focus on electronics, telecommunications, energy and related fields. IEP ranks 30th in terms of Israel's industrial leaders by sales volume, according to Dun & Bradstreet International. Sales totalled \$211.6m. last year.

## Australian firms look to invest here

Sunshine, IAI consider carbon fiber factory

DAVID HARRIS

SEVERAL Australian firms are currently considering multi-million dollar investments in Israel, the Center for Business Promotion revealed yesterday. Their interests span from agriculture and engineering. Negotiations between Sunshine Consolidated Industries and Israel Aircraft Industries to establish an advanced carbon fibers factory are "at an advanced stage," CBP foreign investment specialist Shachar Meidan said. The factory, which would be built in Israel, would produce, amongst other items, ceramic materials for various aircraft parts. The Australian company already has a patent for the anticipated method of production and would supply the knowhow for the operation, while IAI would manage the industrial production and marketing aspects. The factory would cost tens of millions of dollars to set up. The partnership was initiated when Sunshine approached the Israeli embassy in Australia, which in turn asked CBP to hunt out prospective business partners. Elsewhere, Australian Multimedia Enterprise Ltd. head of policy Rohan Mellish paid a three-day visit to Israel last week in a search for business partners. The company is looking to invest up to \$40 million in multimedia partnerships. NSW, which specializes in security systems software, recently met representatives of MLL, Tadiran and IBM here with a view to working in tandem on Conversion 2000. Firms throughout the world are attempting to develop ways of amending software to cope with the change of dates in the new millennium. One other unidentified company has been meeting Israeli advanced aquaculture experts for help in setting up a multi-million dollar fish-breeding project in Australia. "The Australian economy was traditionally based on natural resources and agriculture, and was more or less a closed economy," Meidan said. "They realized they couldn't advance their economy without advanced technologies."

## Indigo reports \$13.8m. in losses

JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

INDIGO NV took a slight step toward the red, with net losses totalling \$13.8 million.

Company revenues for the quarter fell sharply to \$22.6m, a 47 percent drop over last year, when revenues totalled \$43.2m. Third-quarter revenues also dropped 23% compared to the second quarter of 1996.

A statement released by the company attributed the drop in revenues from the second to third quarter to a continued slowdown in the short-run color printing market, slower sales during the summer and reduced price levels on sales to the company's Japanese distributor.

Analysts, however, were pessimistic about the struggling Netherlands-based maker of short-run digital color printers' ability to rebound. Despite the company's restructuring program, which was implemented last May and entailed the firing of some 240 employees,

about one-third of the company's staff, and a decrease of some 25% in operational expenses, analysts said market demand for Indigo's high-quality product does not exist.

"Personally I don't think there is much hope for Indigo," said Tal Liani, chief analyst at Xanex Securities. "The overall picture for the market for digital printers is not growing as expected. Scitex and Indigo both have losses. And even though Indigo's machine would get a nine out of 10 compared to a six for Scitex's machine, the price of an Indigo machine is twice the price of a Scitex machine, there's no demand for such quality."

As competition from colored xerox makers also takes a bite out of Indigo's market share, Indigo will have to do a great deal of educating in order to survive and to meet its

"ambitious" goal of becoming profitable by the middle of next year, experts said.

"There are a lot of big players in the field that believe in [Indigo's] product, but they'll have to start marketing and to refocus their product in other markets," said Douglas Goldstein, director of the securities division at Commstock Trading, adding that Indigo has only sold about 200 of its printers in the US.

In May, when the company announced its restructuring plan, Indigo's shares were trading at about \$16. Since then the Nasdaq-traded shares have dropped continuously. On Tuesday, Indigo closed at \$5.375.

Indigo's printing systems produce brochures, flyers, business forms, newsletters and other printed documents using digital imaging technology. The company's customers include AT&T, 3M and Japan's Toppan Printing Co. Group.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

Geneva court decision won't affect Nissim Gaon's local interests: A Geneva court's decision this week to declare businessman Nissim Gaon's Noga company bankrupt, will not affect his interests in Israel, his representative here told Ma'ariv yesterday. Noga's debts with Bank Leumi, Bank Discount and Bank Hasapnot amount to some \$18.5 million, the newspaper reported. However, Gaon's main interests in Israel, including Aprofim, are not owned by Noga. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

AMR declines to comment on big plane order: AMR Corp., the parent of American Airlines, declined to comment yesterday on media reports that it will announce an order for up to \$6 billion in Boeing Co. aircraft today. AMR recently said that it planned to replace its McDonnell Douglas Corp. MD-11s, the largest and longest-range aircraft in its fleet, and might acquire Boeing 757s to service its domestic routes. AMR's board was scheduled to meet yesterday but the company declined to comment on the agenda.

The Wall Street Journal reported yesterday that American Airlines plans to announce an order for "several hundred" new Boeing jets worth almost \$6b. to be delivered through 2020. The newspaper said the contract is for a total of 500 to 600 aircraft, which will mostly replace older models in the fleet like Airbus and Fokker. It said the airline would not make the announcement before the leaders of the airline's pilot union voted yesterday to bring a recently negotiated agreement to their membership for approval. *Reuters*

## US trade deficit climbs 10.1%

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - Costly oil imports and weak overseas sales of commercial aircraft helped drive the US trade deficit with the rest of the world unexpectedly higher in September, the Commerce Department said yesterday.

The deficit climbed 10.1 percent to \$11.34 billion from a revised \$10.3b. in August, contrary to Wall Street economists' expectations for a narrowing of the trade gap to \$9.5b.

A politically controversial shortfall on trade with China continued to swell in September, while a small improvement was posted with Japan.

Total exports of goods and services dropped 1.4% in September to \$68.79b., while imports increased for a third consecutive month, rising a slight 0.1% to \$80.13b.

"The export side was very bad with a decline of over 0.1 percent versus an expected rise, and it was really based across major categories," Lee Youngdahl, an analyst at Aubrey G. Lanston & Co. Inc., said. "Clearly the dollar's

strength earlier this year and sluggishness of recovery abroad is weighing on exports."

The Commerce Department said the US's cumulative deficit on trade for the third quarter of \$33.2b. was the highest in nearly nine years, since it hit \$38.6b. in the fourth quarter of 1987.

A day after a high-level Chinese delegation met US officials to discuss trade and economic issues, the department said the third-quarter deficit with China soared to \$13.3b. to surpass the quarterly deficit with Japan of \$11.9b.

Once again in September, China was the country with which the US had the biggest bilateral deficit of \$4.73b., an increase of 0.4% from August.

The deficit with Japan eased 0.3% to \$3.79b. in September.

"China has definitely surpassed Japan as the highest deficit country. This is going to cause some political ruminations, because we already have representatives over there right now and it's very contentious," Donald Maude, chief US economist at Scotia Capital Markets Inc., said.



A lone cyclist passes a line of trucks blocking access to Bordeaux yesterday as French truckers, striking for better pay and conditions, snarled traffic for the third day in a row. *(Reuters)*

## Treasury bought same land twice

EVELYN GORDON

THE Treasury has no inventory of state-owned properties, Treasury officials admitted to the Knesset State Control Committee yesterday.

The admission was elicited during a discussion of the latest State Comptroller's Report, which revealed that the Treasury had bought a certain plot of land from the city of Rehovot twice, once in 1959 and once in 1988. The Treasury is still negotiating with the municipality in an attempt to get a refund for the second purchase, and has said it will sue if necessary.

When committee MKs demanded to know how the Treasury could have bought a building it already owned, Gabi Shohat, who is in charge of government housing for the Treasury, and Deputy

Accountant-General Yoel Ophir admitted they do not have a complete inventory of government-owned property. According to Shohat, the Treasury inventory contains only property owned by government ministries. It does not include other government properties such as hospitals, prisons, army installations and land owned by the railroad.

However, he continued, he is now trying to create a complete list of all government-owned properties. Committee chairman Ran Cohen (Meretz) said it was unbelievable that the government did not even have a complete list of properties worth billions of shekels. The committee also discussed another incident in which the Treasury rented a building in Rehovot with an option to buy, at excessively high rent, and then later waived its purchase option. State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat found that buying the building would have been cheaper than continuing to pay the rent. The Comptroller's Office estimated the two Rehovot fiascos together had cost the state between \$6-7 million.

Ophir told the panel the Treasury had had no choice but to waive its option to buy the building, because it was unable to find money for the purchase in the budget that year. Cohen demanded that the Treasury report back to the committee on what steps it had taken to prevent such mishaps from recurring.

## Ports and Railways Authority Public Tender No. Haifa BN/18/96

### NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE RECOVERY AND REMOVAL OF THE SEA VESSEL 'SAN ANDREAS' FROM HAIFA PORT

- The Ports and Railways Authority, Haifa Port (hereinafter, the "Authority" and/or "Haifa Port"), is interested in receiving bids from qualified marine works contractors (hereinafter, the "bidder(s)"), for the recovery and removal of the sea vessel "San Andreas" from the sea bed in Haifa Port (hereinafter, the "project"). The anticipated period of time for carrying out the project: 48 days.
- Participation in the tender is dependent on the bidder meeting the following conditions and/or supplying the following information:
  - Proven experience that the bidder, in the past 5 years, has carried out similar sea vessel recovery projects which involved the cutting up of the sunken vessel. The bidder shall include with its tender details of the work and data thereof, the place where the work was performed and references.
  - A bidder who has not performed similar work for the Ports and Railways Authority shall attach to his bid written testimonials of at least 3 clients for whom he has carried out projects of a similar scale and in similar engineering spheres in the past 5 years.
  - The provision of a Bank Guarantee from a first-class bank for the fulfillment of the terms of the bid at a rate of 5% of the value of the bid (which "value" includes Israeli VAT at the current rate of 17%), and valid until 31/1/97.
  - The Bank Guarantees shall be in US Dollars or New Israeli Shekels linked to the US Dollar in accordance with the representative rate of exchange of the Bank of Israel.
  - Provision by the bidder of details of the method of work as well as a list of the equipment in its possession for the purpose of carrying out the work, or which it is the bidder's intention to hire and from whom he intends to hire it.
  - Provision by the bidder of details of its economic strength, which make it possible to insure itself and the Authority for all risks as set out in the conditions of the contract.
- Within 10 days of the notification to the successful bidder that it has been awarded the works, and as a condition precedent to the signing of an agreement for the carrying out of the Project, proof of insurance as set out herein.
- Payment to an Israeli Contractor shall be made in New Israeli Shekels linked to the US Dollar in accordance with the representative rate of payment in accordance with the rate set by the Bank of Israel as of the date of the payment after the presentation of all the necessary permits demanded by the Law, including, with regard to Israeli entities, those required by the Public Bodies Works Law (enforcement of bookkeeping and payment of tax duties) - 1976. Payment to a foreign contractor shall be made in US dollars. Offers shall be made in US Dollars.
- A tour of the site will leave the building of the Building Department, Haifa Port, on 28/11/96 at 2:00 p.m. Telephone +972-4-518228 to confirm participation.
- The documents for the tender and further details will be available from the Building Dept., Haifa Port, from 21/11/96 against payment of NIS 500 plus VAT (not refundable). All documents and proposals should be submitted in English/Hebrew.
- BIDS SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED FROM BIDDERS WHO DID NOT BOTH PURCHASE THIS TENDER AND ATTEND THE TOUR OF THE SITE.
- Parties interested in participating in the tender shall submit their bids in writing together with all the necessary documents in a sealed envelope marked "San Andreas" and the tender no. "HAIFA BN/18/96" no later than 8/12/96 at 2:00 p.m. The envelope must be inserted into the tender box in the Administration Building, Second floor, Haifa Port.
- The Ports and Railways Authority does not commit itself to accept the lowest bid or any bid whatsoever. The Authority reserves the right, in accordance with its discretion, to negotiate with the bidder/s with regard to those bids which seem to it the most appropriate.

Mend Zaitzman  
Port Manager

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(MUD) TARGET OTVO  
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 19.11.96  
Purchase Price: 156.13  
Redemption Price: 153.89

למסחר בבורסה

PRIME מיימון  
Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents

Date: 19.11.96  
Purchase Price: 114.05  
Redemption Price: 112.85

למסחר בבורסה

## Ports and Railways Authority Tender No. 1418/001

### RAILWAY SIGNALLING SYSTEM

- The Ports and Railways Authority - Israel (P.R.A.), in accordance with the obligations with regard to selective tendering procedures, under the GATT Agreement on Governmental Procurement, invites suppliers to submit quotations for:
  - Railway Signalling System (Hereafter the "System")
  - The Scope of Work includes the design, supply, installation and commissioning of the System, in "Turn Key Project" terms, in railway stations between Tel Aviv -South and Lod and options for additions of up to 200%.
  - Potential suppliers must fulfill the pre-requisites as specified in the tender documents (available free of charge upon application by fax).
  - A meeting for bidders shall be held at Tel Aviv -South Railway Station on 16-17 December, 1996, at 09:00 hours.
  - The P.R.A. reserves the right to negotiate with selected bidders. Further, the P.R.A. is not obligated to purchase the lowest priced system which might be offered by any potential bidder.
  - Tender documents including technical specification are available upon payment of NIS 3510 including VAT (not refundable). All documents and proposals should be submitted in English.
  - The last date to submit proposals is no later than January 30, 1997, at 15:00 hours.
  - The address for the purchase of the Tender Documentation and for submitting the proposals is:
- Ports and Railways Authority - Israel  
Purchasing Division  
74, Petach Tikva Road  
11th Floor, Room 1103  
Tel Aviv 61201, Israel  
Fax: 972-3-5616027

## Arab bank union calls on sector to invest in region

BEIRUT (Reuters) - The Arab banking sector has a vital role to play in increasing the flow of foreign investment into the Arab world, the Union of Arab Banks said yesterday.

"One of the current and future challenges facing Arab banks is their ability to capitalize on growing international interest in the Arab region as a worthy investment area," it said in a report to an Arab banking conference in Beirut.

"The Arab banks are urged, in view of this fact, to work to increase the volume of investment flows into the Arab world on several sectors, the first of which is developing the base of their investment products and instruments," the report added.

It said direct foreign investments into Arab states rose to \$1.8 billion in 1994 from \$1.7b. in 1993, but both figures were less than 1 percent of private international investments.

The Arab banking sector should

become the main player and the motor of the Arab capital markets and should issue eurobonds on international capital markets, the report said.

"These steps by the banks can boost the Arab world's position as an important investment region and contribute to attracting both expatriate and foreign capital and investments," it said.

Arab banks' share in financing Arab economies increased by 14.9% in 1995 to \$254b., mainly through project finance and syndicated loans for major investment projects, the report added.

Total assets of Arab banks rose by 20.7% in 1995 to \$289b. compared with a 6.1% increase in 1994.

This was partly due to the return of expatriate money, increased inter-Arab investments, high interest rates coupled with monetary stability in many Arab countries, and the introduction of several new financial investment instruments.

## ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (11.9.96)

Currency (deposit base)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.750	5.000	5.275
U.S. dollar (\$100,000)	4.750	5.000	5.275
French franc (€100,000)	3.875	4.000	4.250
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.825	1.825	2.125
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	0.625	0.750	1.000
Yen (10 million yen)			

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

## Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates\* (20.11.96)

Currency basket	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rate**
	Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.8139	3.8722	3.14	3.30	3.5490
German mark	2.1336	2.1681	2.09	2.20	2.1581
French franc	5.3742	5.4909	5.28	5.54	5.4290
Japanese yen (100)	0.6306	0.6410	0.62	0.66	0.6373
Dutch florin	2.8788	2.9283	2.82	2.97	2.9084
Swiss franc	1.9022	1.9329	1.88	1.96	1.9211
Swedish krona	2.5258	2.5884	2.48	2.61	2.5499
Norwegian krona	0.4845	0.4924	0.47	0.50	0.4882
Denmark krone	0.5067	0.5148	0.49	0.53	0.5122
Finnish mark	0.5558	0.5648	0.54	0.58	0.5615
Canadian dollar	0.7078	0.7183	0.69	0.73	0.7148
Australian dollar	2.3872	2.4258	2.34	2.48	2.4104
S. African rand	2.5499	2.5911	2.50	2.63	2.5754
Belgian franc (10)	0.6874	0.6988	0.68	0.70	0.6934
Austrian schilling (10)	1.6352	1.6719	1.61	1.67	1.6487
Italian lira (1000)	3.0318	3.0808	2.97	3.13	3.0537
Jordanian dinar	2.1280	2.1803	2.08	2.20	2.1496
Syrian pound	4.4590	4.7900	4.45	4.78	4.8058
Israeli shekel	0.9700	0.9900	0.91	0.99	0.9868
Spanish peseta (100)	4.0688	4.1848	4.00	4.28	4.1411
Irish punt	5.3844	5.4713	5.29	5.55	5.4411
Spanish peseta (100)	2.5388	2.5786	2.49	2.62	2.5822

\*These rates vary according to bank. \*\*Bank of Israel.  
SOURCE: BANK LEUMI



Key Representative Rates
U.S. Dollar NIS 3.2220
Sterling NIS 5.4220
German mark NIS 2.1561

NEW STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes
DJ Industrial 9430.02
DJ Transport 2274.00
DJ Utility 2274.00

Other stock market indexes
FTSE 100 3962.5
Singapore Nikkei 2116.8

Israel stocks in US
NYSE / AMEX / NASDAQ / OTC
Ami 2.25

AG Accounts
Abn-Amro 5.75
Abn-Amro 5.75
Abn-Amro 5.75

NEW MONEY MARKETS

Dollar crossrates (US)
Pound spot 1.8890
D-mark 1.8790

Libor rates
3 months 5.25
6 months 5.25

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.

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NEW COMMODITIES AND METALS

US commodities
Cocoa (Dec) 10.70
Coffee (Dec) 10.70

London commodities
Cocoa (Dec) 10.70
Coffee (Dec) 10.70

Spot market metals (US)
Gold spot 376.25
Silver spot 4.95

New York metal futures
Gold (Dec) 379.00
Silver (Dec) 4.95

London metal futures
Gold (Dec) 379.00
Silver (Dec) 4.95

Gold AM B, Gold PM B, Gold Spot

London metal futures
Gold (Dec) 379.00
Silver (Dec) 4.95

Gold AM B, Gold PM B, Gold Spot

London metal futures
Gold (Dec) 379.00
Silver (Dec) 4.95

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading
Yoram 287.00
Yoram 287.00

Two-sided trading
Name Price % Change
Altrint 204.00

Commercial Banks
Name Price % Change
Bank Leumi 14018.45

Industrial
Name Price % Change
Yoram 287.00

Mortgage Banks & Finance
Name Price % Change
Bank Leumi 14018.45

Financial Institutions
Name Price % Change
Bank Leumi 14018.45

Insurance
Name Price % Change
Bank Leumi 14018.45

Trade & Services
Name Price % Change
Bank Leumi 14018.45

Property, Building & Agriculture
Name Price % Change
Bank Leumi 14018.45

Oil Exploration
Name Price % Change
Bank Leumi 14018.45

Parallel List
Name Price % Change
Bank Leumi 14018.45

Parade & Services
Name Price % Change
Bank Leumi 14018.45

Property, Building & Agriculture
Name Price % Change
Bank Leumi 14018.45

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES
Name Price % Change
Altrint 204.00

NEW YORK
Name Price % Change
Altrint 204.00

London
Name Price % Change
Altrint 204.00

Paris
Name Price % Change
Altrint 204.00

Frankfurt
Name Price % Change
Altrint 204.00

Stocks hit record highs
Name Price % Change
Altrint 204.00

WALL STREET REPORT
Name Price % Change
Altrint 204.00

CURRENCY CROSS RATES
MARK STERLING YEN SFr FFf

MARK STERLING YEN SFr FFf

MARK STERLING YEN SFr FFf

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MARK STERLING YEN SFr FFf

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PM's remarks boost TASE

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

Two-Sided Index 196.32 +0.55%
Maof Index 206.03 +0.63%

SHARES rose yesterday after Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu called for additional public spending cuts, boosting optimism that interest rates will be lowered.

Prominent rising stocks included First International Bank, which jumped 4.5 percent after posting 63% higher third-quarter earnings.

Teva dropped 2.5%, after its American depositary receipts lost 3.2% Tuesday in New York.

"This is nice talk, and now let's see the action," said Idan Azoulay, a portfolio manager at Impact Securities, a subsidiary of Union Bank.

"If he cuts the subsidies for old people and the poor, I don't know if he can go on with that." Such cuts must be approved by the Knesset.

The Two-Sided Index climbed 0.56% to 196.32, while the Maof Index moved up 0.63% to 206.03.

Supermarket operator Super-Sol was the most active stock, up 0.75% on NIS 3.6 million of shares traded.

Across the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, NIS 62.5m. of shares traded, 19% greater than the month's daily average of 52.6m.

Among shares traded on Wall Street and in Tel Aviv, Koor Industries climbed 0.75%, after its

European bourses end mixed

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - European bourses ended mixed yesterday, burdened by inflation worries and ignoring Wall Street which again set a record-breaking pace at the opening.

On currency markets, the dollar was down by more than half a pence in late European trade, pushed lower by a widening US trade gap and signs of growing business activity in Germany.

Frankfurt ended with a gain of 0.4 percent, outshining London and Paris which closed well down with investors fretting over higher interest rates amid signs of inflation re-emerging.

But the Frankfurt stocks lost some of their gains after a jump in the October business confidence index of Germany's Ifo think-tank. Its survey showed a higher-than-expected jump in the business climate index to 97.4 percent from 95.7.

"The Ifo index was more or less stable but now there is a decent improvement," said one trader, adding that this had eroded hopes of a rate cut.

The bourses pushed the computerized IBIS index, which measures after-hours deals, down to show a loss of around 0.6 percent at the close.

London's FTSE index ended 0.4 percent lower as investors took fright at stronger-than-expected October retail sales and money supply growth, which sparked the interest rates fears.

Dealers said they saw little scope for the British market to shake off its lethargy even though Wall Street touched a new intraday peak of 6,438.59 points shortly after opening.

New York stocks jumped in early trading as investors ignored US economic figures showing a big September trade gap but profit-takers later ate into some of the Wall Street's initial 40-point surge.

"We're not getting sucked in by Wall Street at the moment because we're so close to the budget... we need evidence of a tight budget to get us back on track," one dealer said.

"And the higher Wall Street goes, the more cautious we become of the correction that is bound to happen," he added.

The market, already anxious about prospects for the British budget on Tuesday, was alarmed at 10.3% rise in M4 money supply, a leap in bank and building society lending and the largest rise for two years in three-month retail sales figures.

In Paris, French stocks finished in the minus column but they did succeed in clawing back some losses as investors watched Wall Street advance to new highs.

Currency dealers, displaying figures showing the big US trade gap and the robust business activity in Germany, sold dollars for marks.

Against the yen, the dollar was steady, trading at 111.20 after dipping briefly below 111 yen on the US trade data.

CURRENCY CROSS RATES
MARK STERLING YEN SFr FFf



# Hap. Jerusalem coach Pini Gershon fired

Hapoel Jerusalem coach Pini Gershon was fired late Tuesday night after his team's return from an 89-80 loss to Portuguese champion Porto, the club's fourth straight defeat.

ARYEH DEAN COHEN

Team sponsor Nahum Mambur, who brought Gershon to Jerusalem, said in an interview with Channel 1 that Gershon's "lack of time and concentration" had affected his coaching ability, and said that former Hapoel Jerusalem assistant coach Gadi Kedar had the inside track on the job.

making a major change: on Monday, Maccabi Rishon LeZion announced it was sending home veteran foreigner Darren Daye, who also played in the Israeli league for Hapoel Galil Elyon.

# Agassi withdraws from tournament after crushing loss to Sampras

HANOVER, Germany (AP) - Every time Pete Sampras has played Andre Agassi over the past 15 months, he seems to hit a new high.



OY, GEVALT - Andre Agassi contemplates his poor performance against Pete Sampras yesterday.

"I've had spurts of tennis like this, but not for an entire match," he said. Agassi, a former No. 1 who has now dropped to No. 7, has not beaten Sampras since July 1995 in Montreal.

Women's Championships With her shoulder hurting and her father signaling for her to stop, Monica Seles quit in the opening set of her first-round match at the Chase Championships yesterday.

# Hapoel Galil Elyon scores upset victory over Benfica Lisbon

Hapoel Galil Elyon shocked Benfica Lisbon last night, beating the Portuguese visitors to Kfar Blum 92-85 in the eighth game of the preliminary round in the European Cup competition.

JOEL GORDIN

nonetheless undoubtedly be a great morale-booster. The Portuguese opened with a storm. They made the best use of their superior height under the basket, where Roni Sbaib and Americans Gary Trost and Steve Roshia were unchallenged by the Galil players.

Gur Shelef and Mark Carver sparked the rally with key three-pointers, just before the interval buzzer. Galil recovered to 45-38 at the half. The Galil breakthrough came midway through the second half when they scored 16 points in succession.

Agassi later dropped out of the tournament, and his withdrawal brought in alternate Thomas Enqvist into the \$3.3-million championship of the top eight players in the world. Sampras' 1-0 record stands and Enqvist will play two matches and have a chance of making the semifinals.

Agassi needed six deuces to hold serve in the fourth game. Over the next nine games, he won six points. Sampras was all over him, serving aces, hitting blistering returns and firing winners from all over the court.

# Maccabi seeking crucial win in Milan

SOME advice to Maccabi Tel Aviv: while in Milan, enjoy the food, do some shopping and see the sites. If tradition holds to form, winning tonight's basketball game vs. Stefanel Milano may be all but impossible.

ARYEH DEAN COHEN

ting 15-31 three-pointers. Shooting guard Flavio Portaluppi has knocked in 14-25 from long range, and overall Stefanel is an impressive 39.8% from beyond the arc. Maccabi's big men will have their hands full guarding Bowie, but also Warren Kidd, who fouled out early in the Yad Eliahu encounter. Kidd is averaging just over nine rebounds a game in the Euroleague, while shooting an impressive 61.4%, even if most of that is the result of his banging inside.

As for Maccabi's chances of making that No. 3 spot, they really need to win all three of their upcoming Euroleague games to do it. A victory tonight and at home vs. Panionios and Ulker in their last two games would allow them to advance to the next grouping and play in a group that would include themselves, Milan, CSKA and the last three teams in Group B.

# Juventus beats Manchester Utd. to clinch quarter-final place

MANCHESTER (Reuters) - European champions Juventus beat Manchester United 1-0 in an epic Champions' League match last night to clinch a place in the last eight of the European Cup.

Manchester United were a different team after the break, almost totally dominating the play, but the best they could give more than 53,000 desperate home fans was a series of near-misses, typified by a 20-meter shot from skipper Eric Cantona which clipped the bar in the dying minutes.

Manchester United were a different team after the break, almost totally dominating the play, but the best they could give more than 53,000 desperate home fans was a series of near-misses, typified by a 20-meter shot from skipper Eric Cantona which clipped the bar in the dying minutes.

# CLASSIFIEDS

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# Olajuwon hospitalized for tests as Rockets win

HOUSTON (AP) - Hakeem Olajuwon was hospitalized at half-time with an abnormal heartbeat but Charles Barkley had 22 points and 17 rebounds as the Houston Rockets beat the Minnesota Timberwolves 122-93 on Tuesday night.

# Donald cuts through Indian middle-order

AHMEDABAD, India (Reuters) - South African fast bowler Allan Donald cut through the middle order on Wednesday to reduce India to 215 for eight at the close of the first day of the first Test.

# Braves keep Cy Young-winner Smoltz

The Atlanta Braves reached an agreement yesterday to re-sign star pitcher John Smoltz, keeping intact the best rotation in U.S. Major League Baseball.

# Tuesday's NHL results

Pittsburgh 4, St. Louis 2; New Jersey 2, Ottawa 1; Boston 2, Washington 2, tie; Tampa Bay 3, Los Angeles 0; Toronto 4, Buffalo 3; Vancouver 2, Dallas 0; Chicago 4, Edmonton 4, tie.

BRITISH SOCCER SCOREBOARD: Liverpool 1, Everton 1



CRITIC'S CHOICE

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

HUNGARY'S Keller Quartet is here for a series of concerts starting tonight (9) in Ein Hashofet and continuing Saturday (8:30) at the Technion in Haifa and (10:30) in Kibbutz Ginegar, with further concerts next week in Kfar Sava, Beersheba and Tel Aviv.

VIOLINIST Gil Shaham plays Kreisler's very rarely heard In the Style of Vivaldi Saturday (8:30) with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra under the baton of Jun'ichi Hirokami, who also leads the orchestra in Respighi's The Birds and Mendelssohn's Fourth ("Italian") symphony, at the Mann Auditorium in Tel Aviv. Tomorrow (2) at the same locale Shaham plays Dvorak's Violin Concerto while tonight (8:30) he plays the same opus in Kfar Sava.

THE Israel Sinfonietta Beersheba opens a season of its very popular "Jewels of the Opera" series with Jonathan Webb on the podium leading a program of arias and duets from Verdi's Falstaff and Un ballo in maschera, Mozart's Die Entführung aus dem Serail and Die Zauberflöte, and Beethoven's Fidelio with soprano Shirra Green and baritone Viktor Kotlek. Saturday and Monday at 8:30.

GUITAR FESTIVAL

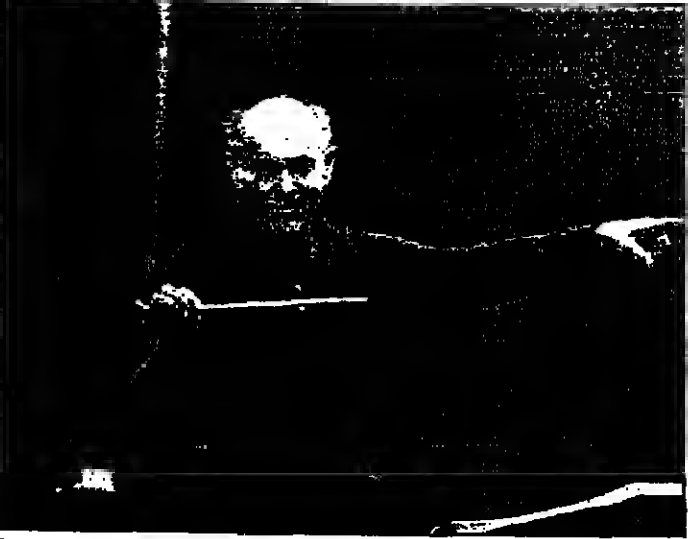
HELEN KAYE

JUG band music, Slide Blues and ragtime will get feet tapping tonight when Paul Moore and his Washboard Wizards get going, together with Ely Marcus and Danny Zuckerman. At Tel Aviv Tzavta at 10 p.m.

DANCE

THOSE leaping Russians of the Moiseyev Dance Company have a busy weekend. Tonight their colorful, exuberant show will be at the Haifa Auditorium at 8:30. Tomorrow at 9:30 p.m. they're at the regional auditorium of Gan Shmuel and Saturday night they're in Givat Brenner at 9 p.m. Helen Kaye

THE Batsheva Dance Company performs Ohad Naharin's Black Milk and Golub Queens, and Paul



Sir Georg Solti conducts Richard Strauss's 'Four Last Songs' on the Discovery Channel.

Norton's The Rouge Tool, Saturday (9) at the Suzanne Dellal Center in Tel Aviv. At 11 a.m. at the same locale the Batsheva Ensemble presents Dance Party, a shorter version of Naharin's highly popular Anaphase. The Kibbutz Contemporary Dance Company presents Rami Be'er's powerful and brilliantly performed When Most I Weep, Saturday (9) at the Holon Theater. - Michael Ajzenstadt

ENGLISH LECTURE

HELEN KAYE

TERRORISM is the subject of a lecture by Yonah Alexander of George Washington University. Entitled "Terrorism - the Worst Is Yet to Come," the lecture is under the auspices of the English speaking Friends of Tel Aviv University on campus in Room 02 of the Sherman Building (entrance through gate 1) tomorrow at 11 a.m.

TELEVISION

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

DAME Kirj Te Kanawa joins Sir Georg Solti in performing Richard Strauss's Four Last Songs in a concert televised live at the Free Trade Hall in Manchester. But the concert itself is only the second, and less interesting, part of The Maestro and The Diva, a one-hour presentation which follows conductor and soprano in conversation and rehearsal. Tomorrow (10:30) and Saturday (4) on the Discovery Channel.

TELEVISION

CHANNEL 1

6:31 News in Arabic 8:45 Exercise Hour 7:00 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 The Cairo Geniza 8:30 Family Relations 9:00 Looking at Automatic 9:25 Learning to Read 9:45 Programs for young children 10:15 Around the Globe 10:30 Literature 11:00 Mathematics 11:10 Welcome to France 11:30 Life Sciences 12:30 Art 13:30 The Orchestral Line 14:00 Surprise Train 14:25 Kitty Cat and Tommy 14:45 Gaya, Gal and Gili 15:00 Autoto

CHANNEL 1

15:30 Tinytown Tales 15:50 The Adventures of Dodo 19:00 The Mysterious Island 16:25 Garfield 16:45 in TV - programs from around the world 16:58 A New Evening 17:34 Zap outside the Studio - live broadcast from around the country 18:15 News in English ARABIC PROGRAMS 18:30 Meeting 18:40 News HEBREW PROGRAMS 18:30 News 19:30 The Simpsons 20:00 News 20:45 A Strong Card - magic with Lor Manor 21:15 Basketball: Stanel Milano vs Maccaoli Tel Aviv - live 23:30 News 00:00 Time for Language

CHANNEL 2

13:00 Make a Wish 13:30 Super Duper 14:00 Echo Plot 14:30 Tic Tac 15:00 The Best Israeli Video Clips 15:50 The Bold and the Beautiful 17:00 News Magazine with Rai Reshel 17:30 Open Cards 18:00 Santa Barbara 19:00 The Mosaic 20:00 News 20:30 Zahu Zahu Live 21:30 Candid Camera 21:45 Dan Shilon Live 23:20 Exposure 00:00 News 00:05 Ticket for Two 00:30 WWI movies with Buster Keaton, Franco and Cicco 01:30 Martha Meyer, D (9 mins.) 2:00 Through the Night 2:30 On the Edge of the Shelf

JORDAN TV

14:05 Iris and Ovid and the Gang

WHERE TO GO

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WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-374253.

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DUTY HOSPITALS

Jerusalem: Blur Holim (internal, pediatrics), Hadassah Ein Kerem (surgery, orthopedics, ophthalmology, ENT); Share Zedek (pediatrics). Tel Aviv: Tel Aviv Medical Center Dana Pediatric Hospital (pediatrics); Tel Aviv Medical Center (surgery). Emergency services. In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition: Ashdod 551333 Kfar Sava 902222 Nahariya 5912333 Beer Sheva 624747 Nazareth 644767 Beit Shean 6511111 Dan Region 5783333 Elor 635444 Hadera 612233 Jerusalem 521333 Karmiel 985444 Mobile Intensive Care Unit (MICU) service in the area, around the clock.

POLICE

100

FIRE

102

FIRST AID

101

Magen David Adom In emergencies dial 101 (Hebrew) or 911 (English) in most parts of the country. In addition:

Medical help for tourists (in English) 177-022-9110 The National Poison Control Center at Rambam Hospital 04-852-9220, 24 hours a day, for information in case of poisoning - Emergency First Aid, 1201, also: Jerusalem 581-0303, Tel Aviv 548-1111 (children/youth 696-1113), Haifa 867-22224, Beersheva 949-3333, Netanya 982-5110, Karmiel 988-9770, Kfar Sava 787-4555, Hadera 345789. Whoa hotlines for battered women 02-651-4111, 03-548-1133 (also in Russian), 07-637-6310, 08-935-0508 (also in Amharic). Rape Crisis Center (24 hours), Tel Aviv 523-4819, 544-9191 (men), Jerusalem 625-5558, Haifa 653-0533, Eilat 633-1917. Hadassah Medical Organization - Israel Cancer Association support service 02-624-7676.

SOLUTIONS

BOBBY FESTIVAL GILBERT AND SULLIVAN... SOLUTIONS: 1. Meadow (5) 2. Waxlike (7) 3. Two-line verse (7) 4. Fashion (5) 5. Gate fastening (5) 6. Unconfound (7) 7. Greek 'X' (4) 8. Coupling (5) 9. Exterior plaster (6) 10. Unpunctual (4) 11. Fortress (7) 12. First appearance (5) 13. Different (5) 14. Self-centredness (7) 15. Put down (7) 16. Lucifer (5)

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1. Meadow (5) 2. Waxlike (7) 3. Two-line verse (7) 4. Fashion (5) 5. Gate fastening (5) 6. Unconfound (7) 7. Greek 'X' (4) 8. Coupling (5) 9. Exterior plaster (6) 10. Unpunctual (4) 11. Fortress (7) 12. First appearance (5) 13. Different (5) 14. Self-centredness (7) 15. Put down (7) 16. Lucifer (5)

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1 Cancellation of credit results in reprimand (4,3) 5 Treasury employs tender-hearted surveyor (7) 9 Introduced changes, but fewer of them (9) 10 Land bought initially in great delight (5) 11 Aerial acquired before Mias Widdecombe returned (7) 12 Silver ring found in shallow water (7) 13 Nigel replaced a man foe being remiss (9) 16 A bit of a basket-case (5) 17 Swallow fast (5) 18 Anxious admission by a hospital inmate (9) 21 A large quantity doesn't impress me! (3,4) 22 Either way, it's a tonic (7) 25 Some seem to be seriously overweight (5) 26 Light in the darkness? Nonsense! (9) 27 Sinatra became expert at his trade (7) 28 Suffering endured by old marines under canvas (7) DOWN 1 Ground coach without hesitation (7) 2 Trains accountant got up to make hay (5) 3 Appeal to analyse verse in an ancient language (5) 4 Chance to impound equipment from naval vessel (7) 5 Association needs to study diplomacy (7) 6 Understand that the calculation is wrong (6,3) 7 Four entered to assassinate senior manager (9) 8 Spare 4-headed man making advances (7) 14 Dying on the California trail (5,4) 15 She went in disguise when making headlines (2,3,4) 17 Secrecy in Rome (3,4) 18 If sick people understand nothing, it's a bad sign (3,4) 19 Toner serves unadorned French wins (7) 20 Hill split asunder by violent flood (7) 23 Cantor without it may squall in the sun! (5) 24 Utter depravity envelops oriental leader (5)

Yesterday's Quick Solution ACROSS: 1 Novas, 4 Koshers, 8 Miracles, 10 Fanel, 11 Hara, 12 Tannous, 13 Bay, 14 Lina, 15 Nota, 16 Amie, 20 Epigrans, 26 Dempsey, 27 Agency. DOWN: 1 Number, 2 Vintz, 3 Show, 4 Opponent, 5 Hand-out, 7 Rafiah, 8 Perry, 13 Buzsacze, 15 Intexim, 17 Strawn, 18 Aster, 19 Whimay, 22 Tones, 23 Dood.

ACROSS 1. Meadow (5) 2. Waxlike (7) 3. Two-line verse (7) 4. Fashion (5) 5. Gate fastening (5) 6. Unconfound (7) 7. Greek 'X' (4) 8. Coupling (5) 9. Exterior plaster (6) 10. Unpunctual (4) 11. Fortress (7) 12. First appearance (5) 13. Different (5) 14. Self-centredness (7) 15. Put down (7) 16. Lucifer (5)

SPITZ GRILL 5, 7, 8:15 + James and the Giant Peach 5 RAV OR Spitz Grill@The Pallbearer 4:45, 7:15 + Dogs Are Color Blind 4:45, 8:15 + Looking For Richard 7:30. RAV CHEN The Nutty Professor 7, 9:30 + A Time to Kill 7:15, 9:30 + Dogs Are Color Blind 7:30. STAR Train spotting@The Nutty Professor@Escape From L.A. 7:15, 9:30. ARIEL Twister 9, 11:30. ASHDOD G.G. GIL 5 847202 Chain Reaction@Rumble In the Bronx@Boca Boca@Muholland Falls 5, 7:30, 10 + A Time to Kill 7:15, 10. G.G. ORLI 1-4 711222 Too Much@Fide@Substitute 5, 7:30, 10. ASHKELON G.G. GIL 5 729977 Fide@Substitute 5, 7:30, 10 + Muholland Falls 5, 7:30, 10 + A Time to Kill 7:15, 10. RAV CHEN Chain Reaction@Rumble In the Bronx@The Quest 5, 7:30, 9:45 + Independence Day 4, 7, 9:45 + James and the Giant Peach 5. BAT YAM RAV CHEN Rumble In the Bronx 5, 7:30, 9:45 + The Quest 5, 7:30, 9:45 + Coverage Under Fire@Too Much@Fleeing Minnesota 5, 7:30, 9:45 + Fied 5, 7:30, 9:45 + Muholland Falls 7:30, 9:45 + Spy Hard 5. BEERSHEBA G.G. GIL Fied@The Eighth Day@Too Much@Substitute 5, 7:30, 10. RAV-NEGEV 1-4 235279 Chain Reaction@Fleeing Minnesota@Rumble In the Bronx@The Quest 5, 7:30, 9:45 + HADERA LEV Stealing Beauty@Muholland Falls@Train spotting 7:30, 10 + A Time to Kill 7:15, 10. DANIEL HOTEL The Eighth Day 7:30, 10. STAR The Quest 5, 7:30, 9:45 + Fied 7:30 + Jude 7:30, 10 + Chain Reaction 7:30, 10. KARMIEL CINEMA A Time to Kill 7, 9:30 + Rumble In the Bronx@Muholland Falls 7, 9:30. KFAR SAVA G.G. GIL 4767370 Fied@Muholland Falls@Substitute 5, 7:30, 10 + Jude 4:45, 7:15, 10 + The Nutty Professor 4:45 + A Time to Kill 7:15, 10 + Too Much@The Quest 5, 7:30, 10. G.G. GIL Fied@Spy Hard@Chain Reaction@The Nutty Professor 4:45, 7:30 + Muholland Falls 7, 9:30 + The Hunchback of Notre Dame (Hebrew dub) 4:45 + Stealing Beauty 4:45, 7:30, 9:30 + Independence Day@Substitute 7, 9:30 + A Time to Kill 7:30 + Too Much 4:45, 7:30. G.G. GIL 6905080 Muholland Falls@Chain Reaction@Rumble In the Bronx 4:30, 7, 9:30. STAR The Nutty Professor 7:30, 9:45 + Two Bits 10 + Escape From L.A. 7:30. NAHARIYA HECHAL HATARBUT Dogs Are Color Blind 8:30 UPPER

14:30 Take Your Pick 15:00 Covington Cross 15:30 Feature film 17:00 News roundup 20:30 Tennis ATP tour world

17:30 French Programs 18:30 News Headlines 19:35 Pacific Station 20:01 The American Chart Show 20:30 Material World 21:10 Kung Fu 22:00 News in English 22:25 Feature Film 00:00 Tarazata

MIDDLE EAST TV

7:00 Quantum Shopping 8:00 TV Shop 14:30 The 700 Club 15:00 Larry King 16:00 Hunter 16:55 Family Challenge 17:45 Family Matters 18:10 Saved by the Bell 18:35 Day and Date 19:30 World News Tonight (Arabic) 20:00 CNN News 20:30 Beach Patrol 21:30 Land's End 22:30 One West Walkie 23:30 The 700 Club 00:00 TV Shop 2:00 Quantum Shopping 3:00 TV Shop

CABLE

TV 3 (33)

15:15 Things Which Can't Be Sold 17:15 From Day to Day 18:00 Amores 19:00 News in Arabic 19:30 Today - news in Russian 20:00 News 20:45 Telekiosk 21:15 La Vie Devant Soi (French) 1978 - film of Madame Rosa, an aging prostitute who takes care of children who have been abandoned by their parents. With Simone Signoret. Directed by Michele Mizrahi. (111 mins.) 22:50 Neon Rider - new series about a psychologist who abandons his career for life in the Rockies

ETV 2 (23)

15:30 Wonder Years 16:00 Stories from Life 17:10 Rights and Duties 17:35 Explora 18:00 Destination 18:30 Art Workshop 19:00 The Cairo Geniza 19:30 Point of View 20:00 A New Evening, with Russian subtitles 20:30 Family and the Restless 20:30 Local broadcast 20:00 Perle Negra (pt) 20:50 Baywatch Nights 21:40 Outside the Law 22:30 Confessions from the Back Seat - fascinating documentary - prohibition of extramarital affairs between taxi drivers and their fares filmed on candid camera (pt) 22:50 The Motor is Ticking - Amos Avia as a taxi driver on night shift who tries to get by on his nerves and avoid getting involved with his weird passengers (pt) 23:20 The Larry Sanders Show 23:50 Melrose Place 00:30 Silk Stalkings 1:20 The Point Man 2:10 2nd Step 2:20 The Brady Bunch Family 3:30 ENG - newsroom drama

FAMILY CHANNEL (5)

8:00 Sisters (pt) 9:00 One Life to Live (pt) 9:45 The Ram and the Rambles (pt) 10:30 Days of Our Lives (pt) 11:20 Parla Negra (pt) 12:10 Neighbors (pt) 12:35 Dallas (pt) 13:30 Wings at 18:00 Medicine Ball 14:25 Stars 15:50 Days of Our Lives 16:40 Neighbors 17:10 Dallas 18:00 One Life to Live 19:45 The Young and the Restless 19:30 Local broadcast 20:00 Perle Negra (pt) 20:50 Baywatch Nights 21:40 Outside the Law 22:30 Confessions from the Back Seat - fascinating documentary - prohibition of extramarital affairs between taxi drivers and their fares filmed on candid camera (pt) 22:50 The Motor is Ticking - Amos Avia as a taxi driver on night shift who tries to get by on his nerves and avoid getting involved with his weird passengers (pt) 23:20 The Larry Sanders Show 23:50 Melrose Place 00:30 Silk Stalkings 1:20 The Point Man 2:10 2nd Step 2:20 The Brady Bunch Family 3:30 ENG - newsroom drama

MOVIE CHANNEL (4)

11:30 Stolen Innocence (1995) (pt) 13:05 The Prince and the Showgirl (1957) - comedy directed by and starring Laurence Olivier. An American showgirl has an affair with an English prince. With Marilyn Monroe. (111 mins.) 15:00 The Untouchables (1950) (pt) 15:20 Shattering the Silence (1993) (pt) 18:55 Ending Up (1989) - drama by Kingsley Amis about five old men in an English village. 20:15 New in the Cinema 20:25 Duplicates (1992) - A woman whose son and brother disappear looks for them and recognizes her brother in a hotel. But the brother is a womanizer and she ends up with an unattractive man. 22:45 Backbeat (1993) - the story of the Beatles back in the early Hamburg days, when they were a quintet with Stuart Sutcliffe as bass player. With Ian Hart and Stephen Rea. (87 mins.) 23:45 A Clockwork Orange (1971) (pt) 2:00 Ballad of Little Jo (1993) (pt) 2:55 Bare Exposure (1999) - erotic (85 mins.)

CHANNEL 5

6:30 Bodies in Motion 16:00 Bodies in Motion 19:30 Soccer: League of Champions (pt) 20:00 Gillette World of Sports 20:30 Women's European Cup Basketball 21:00 Recreational: Pelro, Greece 21:00 Kickboxing 22:20 Spanish League Soccer 23:30 South American Soccer

EUROSPORT

9:30 Horse Racing: World Cup (pt) 10:30 Speed World: Motorsports 12:30 Motorsports Magazine 13:30 Motor Racing: Kaiting North American Championship 14:30 Recreational: Sports Magazine 15:00 Tennis: ATP Tour world championship from Hannover - live 15:00 Alpine Skiing: Women's World Championship, USA - live 20:00 Tennis: ATP tour world championship from Hannover - live 22:00 Alpine Skiing: Women's World Championship, USA - live 22:00 Alpine Skiing: Women's World Championship, USA - live 22:30 Figure Skating: Nations' Trophy, Germany - live 23:30 Soccer: UEFA Cup, 1st round 1:30 Skiing Magazine 2:00 Alpine Skiing: Women's World Championship, USA (pt)

PRIME SPORTS

6:00 Soccer: Asia Clubs Championship games 8:00 Golf: This is the PGA Tour 9:00 Watersports World 10:00 Motor Racing: 10:30 Motor Racing: Spain 11:30 Asian Soccer Show 12:30 Motorcycle Racing: Macao Grand Prix (pt) 13:30 Watersports World 14:30 WWF Action Zone 15:30 Tennis: WTA Tour 17:00 Sports Asia 17:30 Golf: PGA Tour from Pakistan 18:30 Futbol Mundial 19:00 American PGA Golf 20:30 Rugby Hall of Fame 21:00 WWF Wrestling 22:00 Boxing (pt) 00:00 The Kickboxing 1:00 Motorcycle Racing: Superbike Race, Spain - round-up 2:00 Golf: Omega Tour from Pakistan 3:00 Watersports World

CNN INTERNATIONAL

News throughout the day 6:30 Correspondent 7:30 Inside Politics 8:30 Moneyline (pt) 9:30 World Sport 10:30 Showbiz Today 11:30 CNN Newsroom 12:30 World Report 13:30 CNN Asian Edition 13:45 O & A 14:00 Asian News 14:30 World Sport 15:00 Asian News 15:30 Sports Asia 16:00 Larry King Live (pt) 17:30 World Sport (pt) 18:30 World Today 19:30 O & A 21:00 World Business Today 21:30 CNN World News 22:00 Larry King (pt) 23:00 European News 23:30 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno 0:00 Late Night with Conan O'Brien 1:00 Later with Greg Kinnear 1:30 NBC News with Tom Brokaw 2:00 The Tonight Show with Jay Leno 3:00 MSNBC - Intermit

STAR PLUS

6:00 Today's Gourmets 8:30 El TV 7:00 Kate and Allie 7:30 Oprah Winfrey 8:30 21 Jump Street 9:30 Santa Barbara 10:30 The Bold and the Beautiful 11:00 Khandan 11:30 Today's Tonight Show with Jay Leno 12:00 Home and Away 13:00 Lost in Space 13:30 Black Stallion 14:00 Kate and Allie 14:30 Today's Gourmets 15:00 Destinations 15:30 News in Hindi 16:00 Small World 16:30 The Boat 2:20 The Boat 2: Family 3:30 ENG - newsroom drama

CHANNEL 5

6:30 Bodies in Motion 16:00 Bodies in Motion 19:30 Soccer: League of Champions (pt) 20:00 Gillette World of Sports 20:30 Women's European Cup Basketball 21:00 Recreational: Pelro, Greece 21:00 Kickboxing 22:20 Spanish League Soccer 23:30 South American Soccer

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9:30 Horse Racing: World Cup (pt) 10:30 Speed World: Motorsports 12:30 Motorsports Magazine 13:30 Motor Racing: Kaiting North American Championship 14:30 Recreational: Sports Magazine 15:00 Tennis: ATP Tour world championship from Hannover - live 15:00 Alpine Skiing: Women's World Championship, USA - live 20:00 Tennis: ATP tour world championship from Hannover - live 22:00 Alpine Skiing: Women's World Championship, USA - live 22:30 Figure Skating: Nations' Trophy, Germany - live 23:30 Soccer: UEFA Cup, 1st round 1:30 Skiing Magazine 2:00 Alpine Skiing: Women's World Championship, USA (pt)

CINEMA

\* Spitz Grill 5, 7, 8:15 + James and the Giant Peach 5 RAV OR Spitz Grill@The Pallbearer 4:45, 7:15 + Dogs Are Color Blind 4:45, 8:15 + Looking For Richard 7:30. RAV CHEN The Nutty Professor 7, 9:30 + A Time to Kill 7:15, 9:30 + Dogs Are Color Blind 7:30. STAR Train spotting@The Nutty Professor@Escape From L.A. 7:15, 9:30. ARIEL Twister 9, 11:30. ASHDOD G.G. GIL 5 847202 Chain Reaction@Rumble In the Bronx@Boca Boca@Muholland Falls 5, 7:30, 10 + A Time to Kill 7:15, 10. G.G. ORLI 1-4 711222 Too Much@Fide@Substitute 5, 7:30, 10. ASHKELON G.G. GIL 5 729977 Fide@Substitute 5, 7:30, 10 + Muholland Falls 5, 7:30, 10 + A Time to Kill 7:15, 10. RAV CHEN Chain Reaction@Rumble In the Bronx@The Quest 5, 7:30, 9:45 + Independence Day 4, 7, 9:45 + James and the Giant Peach 5. BAT YAM RAV CHEN Rumble In the Bronx 5, 7:30, 9:45 + The Quest 5, 7:30, 9:45 + Coverage Under Fire@Too Much@Fleeing Minnesota 5, 7:30, 9:45 + Fied 5, 7:30, 9:45 + Muholland Falls 7:30, 9:45 + Spy Hard 5. BEERSHEBA G.G. GIL Fied@The Eighth Day@Too Much@Substitute 5, 7:30, 10. RAV-NEGEV 1-4 235279 Chain Reaction@Fleeing Minnesota@Rumble In the Bronx@The Quest 5, 7:30, 9:45 + HADERA LEV Stealing Beauty@Muholland Falls@Train spotting 7:30, 10 + A Time to Kill 7:15, 10. DANIEL HOTEL The Eighth Day 7:30, 10. STAR The Quest 5, 7:30, 9:45 + Fied 7:30 + Jude 7:30, 10 + Chain Reaction 7:30, 10. KARMIEL CINEMA A Time to Kill 7, 9:30 + Rumble In the Bronx@Muholland Falls 7, 9:30. KFAR SAVA G.G. GIL 4767370 Fied@Muholland Falls@Substitute 5, 7:30, 10 + Jude 4:45, 7:15, 10 + The Nutty Professor 4:45 + A Time to Kill 7:15, 10 + Too Much@The Quest 5, 7:30, 10. G.G. GIL Fied@Spy Hard@Chain Reaction@The Nutty Professor 4:45, 7:30 + Muholland Falls 7, 9:30 + The Hunchback of Notre Dame (Hebrew dub) 4:45 + Stealing Beauty 4:45, 7:30, 9:30 + Independence Day@Substitute 7, 9:30 + A Time to Kill 7:30 + Too Much 4:45, 7:30. G.G. GIL 6905080 Muholland Falls@Chain Reaction@Rumble In the Bronx 4:30, 7, 9:30. STAR The Nutty Professor 7:30, 9:45 + Two Bits 10 + Escape From L.A. 7:30. NAHARIYA HECHAL HATARBUT Dogs Are Color Blind 8:30 UPPER

CHILDREN (6)

6:30 Cartoons 9:00 Courc Maroc 9:45 Pink Panther Show 10:20 Mirror, Mirror 11:05 Welcome Freshmen 11:30 The Inventors 12:00 Sweet Valley High 12:30 Hugo 13:00 Surprise Garden 13:10 The Muddies 13:35 Surprise Garden 13:40 Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures 14:00 The Milky Way 14:35 Courc Maroc 15:00 The Center of Things 15:15 Pink Panther Show 15:35 The Center of Things 15:50 Clarissa Explains 16:10 The Center of Things 16:35 Saved by the Bell 17:00 Little University 17:30 Sweet Valley High 18:00 Hugo 19:30 Avenue Penguins 19:00 Blinky Bill 19:30 Three's Company 20:00 Married with Children 20:25 Roseanne 20:50 Step by Step 21:10 Lois and Clark

SECOND SHOWING (6)

22:00 Vertigo (1958) - one of Hitchcock's finest. James Stewart as a retired policeman hired by an old friend to keep an eye on his wife. He falls in love with her and things begin to go wrong. With Kim Novak and Barbara Bel Geddes. (122 mins.) 00:05 The Ours Cry (French, 1987) - Suspense drama by Youssef Chahine. A peeping Tom who follows a young married woman introduces himself and becomes the object of her obsessive love. Based on a novel by Patricia Highsmith (104 mins.)

DISCOVERY (8)

6:00 Open University 12:00 Cousteau (pt) 13:00 Holy Men of India (pt) 14:00 Open University 16:00 Cousteau (pt) 17:05 Holy Men of India (pt



# Police question Safed doctors on suspicion of possible mercy killings

DAVID RUDGE

POLICE have questioned four doctors at the Rebecca Sieff Hospital in Safed in the past two days on suspicion of causing the deaths of two terminally ill patients through negligence, or perhaps mercy killing.

The two deaths involved terminally ill patients who allegedly did not receive the appropriate treatment, which is suspected of having caused or contributed to their deaths. The possibility of other such cases has not been ruled out, according to police sources.

If this proves true, a proposed investigating committee will have to contend with philosophical and ethical questions, regarding the law and so-called "acts of mercy." The inquiries, according to the sources, are expected to take a long time, given the complexity of the issue and the questions likely to be raised.

The police inquiries began officially on Tuesday when detectives from the northern region police headquarters questioned two senior doctors at the hospital. Two more doctors were questioned yesterday. The questioning was carried out in coordination with the director of the hospital, after the district attorney's office received the initial reports and authorized the investigation.

The inquiry itself came about by coincidence as a result of information received by police in the past few months while investigating an entirely separate matter at the hospital involving allegations of false medical documents.

Northern region police spokeswoman Chif Superintendent Orit Messer-Harel confirmed that an inquiry had been launched and

that four doctors at the hospital had been questioned.

"The inquiry is at the initial stage after the district attorney's office gave authorization for the investigation to start," said Messer-Harel.

"Our intention is also to question the families of those who died and other elements. The police will also demand the establishment of a professional committee to examine the case."

The inquiry has shocked staff at the hospital. Management officials said they could not comment while the investigation was in progress, and referred all press inquiries to the Health Ministry.

According to hospital sources, however, the announcement of the probe put the entire staff under a cloud. "The atmosphere is very bleak and certainly not very pleasant, even though nobody believes for one minute that anyone here has done anything illegal," said a staff member.

According to police sources, the Health Ministry will be asked to co-opt doctors onto the proposed committee in order to assist in investigating all the medical aspects of the case.

Judy Siegel adds: Health Ministry Director-General Gabi Barabash said last night that after discussing the matter with Police Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz and based on the information already known that the story reported in the media is very far from the truth.

Barabash said the ministry and the police would jointly check over the material in the hands of investigators in order to decide what, if anything, to do.



Vice-Admiral Luks Kroon, head of the Dutch Navy, salutes Israeli sailors as he disembarks from a Saar-5 yesterday. (Amir Pliak)

# Ordnance Corps improving daily life for soldiers in Lebanon - down to underwear

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

THE IDF has provided troops in south Lebanon with top-of-the-line winter equipment and invested tens of millions of shekels to reinforce army outposts in the security zone and increase supplies.

This reduces the number of supply convoys which must expose themselves to Hizbullah guerrillas to reach the troops. The two-year program of the IDF's logistics and technology branch has enabled the outposts to go for some time without receiving food, water and fuel.

"The logistics branch supports the whole front, so that when a soldier lifts his weapon he hits his target and emerges victorious," said Col. D., deputy commander of the Galilee division on the northern border.

"Some of the equipment being supplied to combat units are foam mattresses to be used while laying in ambush, electrically heated sleeping bags and battery-charged, heated insoles.

The traditional "gates" long underwear has been replaced by Gortex thermal suits, which remove the perspiration a soldier works up while on a mission. Where once insulated overalls were passed around, now they are issued to all soldiers.

"In any confrontation with the enemy, our soldiers have no excuse for failing because they lacked something," the colonel said. IDF outposts across the front have undergone a transformation, from sand-bagged tent camps circled by corrugated tin-lined trenches, to dug-in fortresses enveloped in concrete and iron.

The dining rooms, kitchens and even the showers and latrines are made out of thick cement, protecting them from mortar and rocket attack. "A few months ago when there were no reinforced latrines, you'd be sitting in there and praying nothing would happen," said Ra'anan Harman, 20, from Kibbutz On, who maintains the radios at the IDF outpost at the Beaufort Castle.

"The IDF makes sure that the soldiers in Lebanon have the best there is." Most outposts have removed the dangerous solar heaters and replaced them with off-the-shelf electric radiators. Some have weight rooms and all have a public telephone with a free open line home.

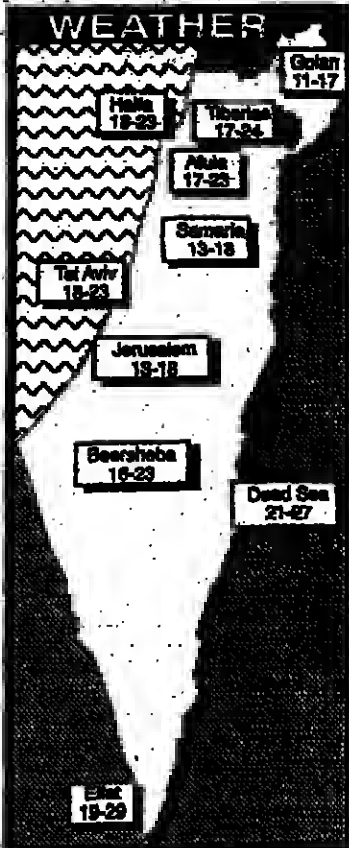
At the Beaufort Castle position, Golani troops helped unload the supply truck into refrigerated store rooms that will keep the vegetables fresh. The food here is high in protein and there are lots of chocolates, nuts and dried fruit to go around.

All this is aimed at easing the burden of protecting the northern border placed on the troops, who face daily skirmishes with Hizbullah gunmen. Despite the good intentions, showers are permitted only once a week, mortar fire is increasing and the mud grows thicker with each rain.

Hizbullah has identified the supply convoys as a weak point in the IDF line. In addition to reducing the number of convoys, the army has also paved alternate routes to some outposts which are less exposed, a senior commander said.

Brig.-Gen. Itzik Elimelech, head of IDF ordnance, said they have prepared for the winter in Lebanon from the individual soldier up to the level of the entire front. He said combat troops would never lack any of the best equipment available, despite the fact that less and less funds are being allocated to the quartermaster branch each year.

"There is nothing we think they need which they don't have," Elimelech said.



Forecast: Partly cloudy to cloudy.

### AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	HIGH	WIND	MOON	
Amsterdam	01	34	05	41	rain
Bangkok	24	30	07	45	cloudy
Buenos Aires	20	28	02	00	cloudy
Cairo	18	31	03	77	cloudy
Chicago	05	37	04	30	snow
Frankfurt	02	37	11	30	rain
Geneva	07	45	03	31	rain
Hong Kong	18	26	23	23	cloudy
Jakarta	23	28	02	22	cloudy
London	07	10	02	34	rain
Los Angeles	14	57	19	09	cloudy
Madrid	02	37	12	34	rain
Moscow	03	32	01	34	cloudy
New York	03	39	09	50	cloudy
Paris	04	38	07	45	rain
Rome	05	37	11	31	rain
Stockholm	03	37	09	48	cloudy
Sydney	14	27	02	22	cloudy
Tokyo	05	27	04	28	clear
Zurich	07	45	02	34	rain
Vancouver	05	41	02	45	rain

### Winning cards

IN yesterday's daily Chance drawing, the winning cards were the queen of spades, queen of hearts, 10 of diamonds and ace of clubs.

### Police to begin questioning MK Dayan

DAVID RUDGE

NATIONAL Police Headquarters yesterday authorized Ha'amakim district police to question Tsomet MK Haim Dayan over allegations that he beat his wife during an argument at their Migdal Ha'emek home on Saturday.

Rachel Dayan lodged a complaint with police in the town on Saturday and also received medical treatment at Afula's Emek hospital on the same day for blows and scratches to various parts of her body. Haim Dayan has denied physically assaulting her.

Since the alleged perpetrator is an MK, permission had to be granted by the national police. The police must also inform the Knesset Speaker of the pending inquiry, especially as Dayan is the deputy speaker. The next stage, according to police, will be to contact Dayan and arrange a date for the questioning to take place. It will probably be held at the headquarters of the Ha'amakim district in Nazareth.

### Sharansky cancels Russia visit

DAVID HARRIS

INDUSTRY and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky has postponed his historic visit to Russia next week, due to a death in the family.

His wife's brother, Col. (res.) Michael Shatitz, 48, died suddenly yesterday morning. Until 18 months ago, Shatitz served as Israel's military attaché to Russia.

Since then he had run his own business. Shatitz is being buried at 5 p.m. today at Mt. Herzl cemetery. Some 50 businesspeople were scheduled to accompany Sharansky to Moscow and St. Petersburg. In all the delegation was to comprise some 100 people, including his mother and wife, Avital.

The visit was to have included meetings with businesspeople, government ministers and officials, in addition to discussions with members of the Russian Jewish community. Sharansky was to have visited a Moscow synagogue and the gulag where he was imprisoned, met with former colleagues who opposed the Soviet regime, and paid his respects at the grave of one of his role models, dissident Andrei Sakharov.

### Shahal: Gold planted item about Peres and Arafat

LIAT COLLINS

MK Moshe Shahal (Labor) yesterday accused the Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's foreign policy adviser Dore Gold of deliberately planting a news story claiming that opposition leader Shimon Peres had advised Yasser Arafat not to sign the Hebron agreement.

Shahal told the Knesset that in addition to Gold a "certain minister" spoke on the subject with three journalists, "two of whom threw the information in the bin while [Yediot Aharanot] journalist Shimon Schiffer used the information."

Shahal attacked the Prime Minister's Office, calling it "ridiculously amateurish." He accused Gold "of being like his name, Netanyahu's 'Golden Boy.'"

"The last 150 days were the worst in Israeli politics," he said. "Everything was trampled on and kicked. Netanyahu surrounded himself with a gang of inexperienced [advisers] who step on each other."

Shahal went on to ridicule the responses put out by the Prime Minister's Office this week follow-

ing the publication of the item. "Who should we believe, [the premier's media advisor] Shai Bazak or Shimon Schiffer? Netanyahu on Sunday or Netanyahu on Monday? Two people have two versions: Schiffer and the Prime Minister's Office. One of the two is not speaking the truth. That's clear. Netanyahu and his boys played with dangerous matches and when the bonfire ignited they ran from it so they wouldn't be blamed for the fire. This is not the first time he planted a false item and afterwards denied it," Shahal said.

He stressed that the item had been deliberately created and planted and not just leaked.

Coalition MKs beckled Shahal during his address and Shahal returned tried to use the Knesset House Rules to prevent MK Ruby Rivlin (Likud) from responding by withdrawing his motion after it had been presented. Rivlin accused Shahal of creating a "blood libel."

Bazak issued a statement calling Shahal's claims "baseless, unfounded and utter rubbish."

### Ramat Shlomo residents demand security fence

BILL HUTMAN

RESIDENTS of north Jerusalem's new Ramat Shlomo neighborhood have demanded a barbed-wire security fence to be built to separate their community from "extremist elements" in adjoining Arab neighborhoods.

The municipality, however, expressed opposition to building the fence, although it has given its backing to increasing security measures in the haredi neighborhood, on Shuafat Ridge, near the Arab neighborhoods of Shuafat and Beit Hanina, and the Shuafat refugee camp.

"I am against the building of a fence, and in favor of taking other security measures that might be needed," Mayor Emdur Olmert told The Jerusalem Post, following a meeting with leaders of the haredi community on Tuesday.

Even under former mayor Teddy Kollek, the municipality in gener-

ally opposed the building of fences around Jewish neighborhoods that bordered Arab ones, on grounds such a move would only give the impression of a divided city.

There are, however, two exceptions - a now dilapidated security fence between the northern border of Neveh Ya'acov built during the intifada, and a smaller fence built in about 1991 that is still in place between East Talpit and Jebel Mukaber.

"From a security point of view, we believe a security fence is needed around Ramat Shlomo," said Yehuda Levinger, the neighborhood's security officer. "But we understand that the municipality doesn't want to give the impression that the city is divided, so will be satisfied for now with other security measures."

Levinger said that after the meeting with Olmert, Ramat Shlomo residents met with police and city officials, and a number of steps were agreed upon. The police are to be beef up patrols, he city will hock off the dirt paths connecting Ramat Shlomo to nearby Arab neighborhoods, and the neighborhood council will work to increase participation in the Civil Guard, Levinger said.

Community leaders are also initiating a meeting, to be held next week, with the mukhtars of the nearby Arab neighborhood of Shuafat, according to Levinger.

"In recent weeks we have had a wave of break-ins that were carried out by Arabs," Levinger said. "We have received intelligence reports about extremist elements in the area, and are concerned that our proximity to them makes us an easy target," he said.

### A TRIBUTE TO IDF A PRAYER FOR THE SOLDIERS OF ISRAEL

Two posters with prayers for soldiers in English and Hebrew.

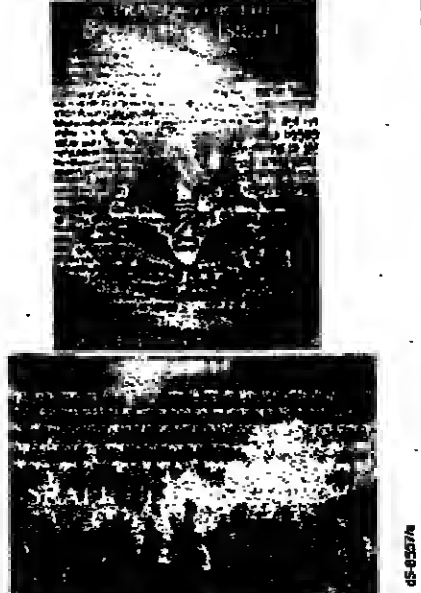
Poster a) Group of soldiers: 18 3/4" x 26 3/4" (47 1/2 cm x 68 cm)

Poster b) IDF shield: 27" x 19 1/2" (68 1/2 cm x 49 1/2 cm)

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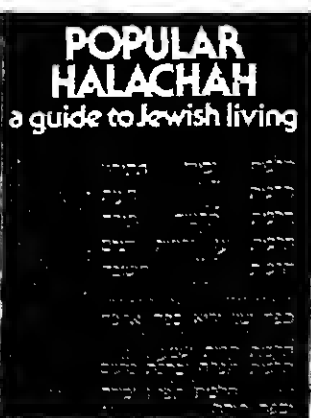
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